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THE TIMES

MONDAY FEBRUARY 15 1982

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The Pope to meet the Queen

The Queen and the Pope will meet during the Pontiff's May visit to Britain, but no date has been fixed, Buckingham Palace announced. Pope in Nigeria, page 6; Archbishop's plea, page 12

Atlantic air earnings loss

The Government is worried that Britain is losing invisible earnings on transatlantic air routes because of the Laker collapse. Britain and the United States are each allowed two airlines on the routes, but British Airways is now fighting Pan American and Trans World alone Page 2

De Lorean fears grow

Fears are growing that receivers could be called into the De Lorean car plant in Belfast this week. Mr James Prior, the Northern Ireland Secretary, is expected to tell Mr John De Lorean today that no more Government money is available Page 13

Rifle triggers US concern

The filming of an American soldier carrying an automatic rifle in El Salvador has started a chain reaction in Washington that is likely to lead to sharp questions in Congress on American policy in Central America Page 6

Papers pledge to winners

The *Daily Mail* announced that every winner in its latest "Casino" game would receive an equal share of a £35,000 prize and go forward into a second draw with another £35,000 prize for the winner. More than 3,000 have claimed Page 2

Funeral protest

The funeral of Dr Neil Aggett in Johannesburg turned into one of South Africa's biggest anti-government demonstrations for years. About 2000 mourners packed into his cathedral, thousands more lined the streets Page 6

Rape review

The treatment of rape victims in court may lead to a revision of police procedures, Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, said. The need for new legislation would depend on how the police and judges reacted to the changes Page 3

Nato strength

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Defence Secretary, has asked Western Europe to contribute more to Nato defence. Otherwise, he said, there was a risk that America might opt for isolation Page 5

Poodle top dog

Grayco Heselnut, the toy poodle champion at Cruft's Show was declared Supreme Champion. A German Shepherd was the reserve Page 2

England defeated

Sri Lanka beat England by three runs in the second one-day international cricket match in Colombo. England won the first match by five runs. Page 20

The Times this week

Four voices from the West

There is anxiety in the capitals of the West about the direction and unity of the alliance, specially in the wake of the Polish coup. *The Times* has therefore invited four former national leaders to write individual perspectives based on their deep experience.

In a series beginning tomorrow, the uncertainty in Nato and the future direction of Western strategy will be examined by Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's national security adviser 1976-80.

Willy Brandt, former West German Chancellor; Maurice Couve de Murville, former Prime Minister of France; and James Callaghan, British Prime Minister 1976-79, will follow.

Leader page, 11
Letters: On income tax cuts, from Sir William Clark, MP, and Mr Michael Grylls, MP; fares subsidy, from Mr Ken Livingstone
Leading articles: SDP; Syria
Features, pages 9, 10
Why Britain can lower interest rates now; Singapore, 40 years after the British surrender; George Mikes enjoying life at 70
Obituary, page 11
Miss Anne Shaw, Mr Victor Jory

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Jenkins likely leader in wider SDP franchise

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Social Democratic Party yesterday emerged from a day and a half of purposeful debate with a more democratic and flexible draft constitution, which will go to all 78,000 members at the end of next month for ratification.

The ballot form will seek the members' verdict on the document as a whole, and on the two specific points which most roused and divided the convention in Kensington, west London. These were the method of electing the leader and the question of whether men and women should be equally represented on the main policy-forming body, the Council for Social Democracy.

The vote on giving women half the council seats produced a tie on Saturday, despite Mrs Shirley Williams's pleas from the platform. She had urged the party to make the enhancement of opportunities for women a substantial part of its appeal.

There were more women in the Commons in 1951 than there were today, she said, and it was no good saying that things were getting better.

The women's lobby secured two lesser victories. They are to have special representation for women on the national committee, the controlling organization of the party outside Parliament, and also the right to inclusion on short-lists for selection of parliamentary candidates.

But equal representation on the council was the main goal and this concept may be rejected as too modern by the mass membership.

Mrs Williams said yesterday that such an outcome would mean that the party was less radical than she had hoped.

The leadership conundrum was reduced from eight bright ideas to three firm proposals. Members must decide whether the leader should be chosen by MPs alone, without endorsement by the wider party; by every member of the party with no special vote for MPs; or a compromise under which everyone would have a vote in the first leadership election, but subsequent elections would be left to MPs.

The one-member one-vote system was the preference of 166 of the 305 accredited representatives. But when asked to refine their choice, in a second ballot, they opted by 83 votes to 81, with two abstentions, for the system to be reviewed after three years.

Unless the Kensington convention proves wholly unrepresentative, the party seems certain to adopt the wider franchise in the end.

At one time it was held that Mrs Williams would win under the wider franchise, with Mr Roy Jenkins the MPs' probable choice. Mr Jenkins, provided he can enter Parliament, now seems the likeliest choice under any system. He said yesterday that he was content to let the membership decide.

The convention alternated between docility and self-assertion and by the end it had swallowed, without major alteration, a document six times as long as the constitution of the United States.

The structure is unchanged, comprising a Council for Social Democracy, of 400 or more elected members, meeting three times a year; a national committee of about 40, mainly indirecty elected; and, as well as the leader, a president elected by every party member in a ballot, to chair both council and committee.

Attempts from the floor to give real power to the consultative assembly, the annual gathering which every member is entitled to attend, were firmly rejected.

The platform was defeated eight times, apart from the roadblock on the vote of women.

Members insisted that constituencies were given greater freedom: that areas should be ceive 20 per cent of their members' subscriptions and that the subscription rate be set by the council rather than the national committee.

The leadership was defeated on a proposal requiring it to set up a national youth organization. And representatives forced a vote making it relatively easy for the party's constitution to be overhauled in three years if it proves defective.

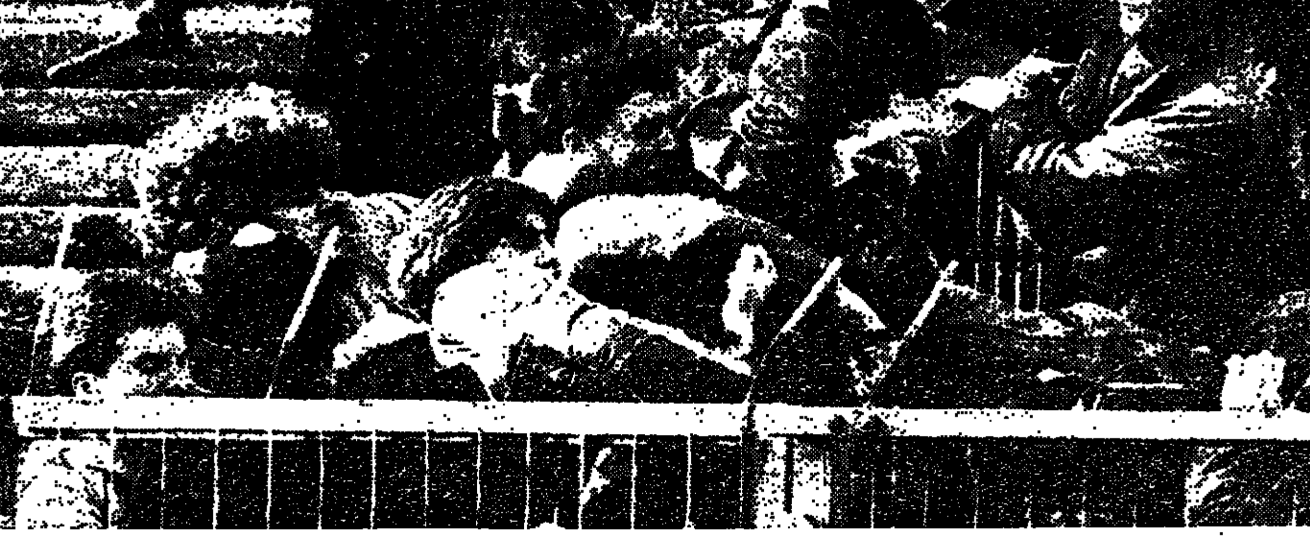
One vote carried as much anguish as the women's rights issue. The constitution's preamble, rejecting prejudices based upon sex, race or religion, was recently extended to embrace "gender, race, colour, sexual orientation or religion".

A proposal to go back to the original wording was denounced as being designed to "purge the party of queers". Ms Polly Toynbee pleaded the harassment of homosexuals and the importance of breaking new ground, but lost her cause.

The party seems tolerant enough to the observer. But it likes words, particularly in constitutions, to have precise and comprehensible meanings.

Convention reports, page 4
Leading article, page 11

FA Cup: The Law versus The Rest



The fifth round of the FA Cup on Saturday brought more than its usual share of surprise results and a number of arrests after fighting between rival groups of fans (our Sports Staff writes). Over 60 people were arrested before the start of the Chelsea-Liverpool game at Stamford Bridge (above, a policeman, truncheon in hand, moves in on a scuffle inside the ground) and there were more arrests at Euston Station, London, where supporters of Liverpool, Birmingham City, Aston Villa and other clubs were congregating. No serious injuries were reported save to Liverpool's pride: they lost 2—0.

Reports, page 17

A king trapped in a sandy maze

From Trevor Fishlock
Chambal Valley, north-west India

Malkhan is a bandit king It says so on the headed paper he uses to send threats and taunts to the policemen hunting him. It says so, too, on the rubber stamp he bangs on the ransom notes he dispatches to wealthy men whose sons he has kidnapped.

He and his gang have killed and kidnapped many people. There are more than a hundred serious crimes listed against them. The police have put them at the top of the league of ruthless dacoits who plague and terrorize this region of northern India.

There is a swagger about Malkhan, in keeping with his status and the high price on his head. His headed notepaper is not mere insolence or black humour. He rules by menace but sees himself as a principled and justified chief. He deals out rough justice and doles out money, Robin Hood fashion, and villagers touch his feet in respect.

He is 38, tall, thin, and watchful, and wears khaki police uniform with a superintendent's pips on the epaulettes and his name in Hindi on his tunic breast.

Malkhan slips through net

But for all his panache Malkhan is on the run. He dare not sleep two nights in the same place. He is out there somewhere, about 70 miles south-east of the Taj Mahal, in the sandy labyrinthine ravines, the thick jungle and the scented yellow mustard fields; and the police net is slowly tightening.

His support is being eroded, his food sources watched. He knows that — sooner or later —someone may betray him for money or revenge.

But Malkhan is cunning and the net still has holes. Not long ago he slipped across the Chambal River at dusk and made for a village near the town of Bhind. There were two scores to settle: an 18-year feud with a farmer, and the matter of a man who had tried to poison one of his gang.

DELHI
BANDIT AREA
Agra
UTTAR PRADESH
Morena
Bhind
Chambal
Bijaipur
Gwalior
MADHYA PRADESH
60 miles

This second business was quickly done. The man was dragged from his home. "Poisoner", Malkhan said, and shot him.

Revenge on the farmer was more profitable. Malkhan abducted his son, aged 24, and kept him three months in the ravines before the father raised the equivalent of £3,000 to get his son back.

Kidnapping along with routine extortion is the dacoits' greatest money maker.

Some of Malkhan's loot pays for temple upkeep. He is religious and tries to worship at an image of bloody-mouthed Kali, Godess of Death, every Monday.

He also heeds portents. The sight of a snake can lead to cancellation of a raid. More practically he forbids the womanizing and drinking that have led to the betrayal and death of other bandits. He also sleeps apart from the gang, his bodyguard on watch.

But even cunning and careful dacoits make mistakes. Pan Singh, another top-league killer and kidnapper, wanted for more than 50 crimes, made a fatal error last October. His men found refuge in a walled village near Bhind, believing caste fellowship with the villagers secured their safety.

The last entry in Pan Singh's captured diary shows he spent 30 rupees (£1.80) on whisky and 150 rupees on a goat to feast on.

Last race ended in hail of bullets

But the police were told and 300 men ringed the village. The shooting went on for hours—and in the end Pan Singh made a run for it.

Running has been his life. In his prime he had been an Indian sports hero, an international athlete, holder for 10 years of the national 3,000 metres record. Then he became embroiled in a land feud in his village, and committed murder; it was the usual way of settling quarrels in this violent region. He fled to the ravines and set up as a bandit.

His last desperate race ended in a hail of bullets.

Popular songs in the Chambal Valley say that death in battle is better than death in bed, that "a man whose enemy sleeps has no right to live". They are part of the glamour that clings to outlaws in a region the size of Wales unique for its tradition of brigandage.

This is the first of two articles by Trevor Fishlock on the bandits of northern India.

Next: the police task.

Rebels hold out on island in Hama

From Robert Fisk
Damascus, Feb 14

The Syrian Government's attempt to portray the uprising at Hama as a localized battle between the authorities and the extremist Muslim Brotherhood began to founder tonight with reports that regular Syrian troops in the city had mutinied and crossed over to the side of the rebels.

In Damascus, where the violence is inevitably being projected as part of an American plot, government officials took the unprecedented step of informing foreign correspondents that they risked being shot by the security police if they tried to travel to Hama. One dispatch—originating in Turkey—talked of an entire Syrian division transferring its allegiance to the Brotherhood; the story is unconfirmed and almost certainly untrue but it does give some indication of the serious state into which Syria's internal security has now fallen.

Fighting continued in Hama for the twelfth successive day today as units of special forces troops tried to force their way into the medieval streets of the old city. The rebels—who clearly comprise more than just a few extremists from the Muslim Brotherhood—are using rocket launchers as well as automatic rifles and hand-grenades in the battles along the south-western banks of the Orontes river. The district, once popular with tourists for its wooden waterwheels and Islamic museum, is now under tank and mortar attack by government troops.

The fact that the rebels are holding out in buildings on an island in the old city — connected to the riverbank by a narrow bridge — makes the task of assaulting their positions all the more difficult.

One resident from Hama, who arrived in Damascus at the weekend, said that he had to leave the city when his house was destroyed by shell-fire. Casualties are put between 2,000 and 3,000 dead and wounded,

The Government announced this afternoon that the main road between Damascus and the northern city of Aleppo — which runs through Hama — had been reopened although

Continued on back page, col 5

Government inquiry urged into transfer of 'Times' titles

By Staff Reporters

The Opposition is to ask the Government to examine whether the transfer of the titles of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* from Times Newspapers Ltd to Mr Rupert Murdoch's News International breaches the conditions imposed when Mr Murdoch took over the newspapers last year.

The transfer was agreed by the executive board of Times Newspapers Ltd (TNL) in December. The newspapers' independent national directors on the main Times Newspapers Holding Board were not consulted, an omission described yesterday as "breathtaking subterfuge" by Mr John Smith, the Shadow Trade Minister, who is to ask Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, to intervene.

Sir William Rees-Mogg, former editor of *The Times*, has also written to Mr Biffen describing the transfer as illegal and "clearly a breach of the agreement made at the time of the sale and, more importantly, of the conditions attached for your approval".

Sir William added that the transfer would obviously facilitate closure of the newspapers if Mr Murdoch's demands for staff cuts are not agreed by the end of the week. The demands are for 600 redundancies from TNL's 2,600 full-time employees.

Mr Murdoch, who is in the United States told *The Sunday Times* that the transfer was made on legal advice to protect the titles. "It does not in any way affect either the control of these newspapers, or the guarantees of editorial independence which were given by News International at the time of the purchase of Times Newspapers", he said.

"The move was agreed unanimously by the board of Times Newspapers. The special role of the independent directors in no way affected."

Another TNL board member, Mr Roy Eckberg, former company secretary of TNL and now financial director of the company and of News International, said: "The board of TNL have behaved perfectly correctly in the context of the legal advice we received."

The argument centres on undertakings given by Mr Murdoch when he took over the newspapers and also on the conditions imposed by Mr Biffen before he agreed to the sale, without reference to the Monopolies Commission. These were later incorporated in TNL's articles of association.

In a statement on the proposed purchase of *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and its three supplements, Mr Biffen said on January 27, 1981:

"NIL (News International) shall not without the consent of a majority of the independent national directors for the time being of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd (TNHL) do anything, or procure or permit anything to be done, which shall result in:

(i) NIL, by reason of any transfer, ceasing to be a newspaper proprietor in relation to *The Times* or *The Sunday Times*, or

(ii) either NHL or Times Newspapers Ltd (TNL), ceasing to be a subsidiary (within the meaning of section 154 of Companies Act, 1948) of NIL, or

(iii) TNL selling or otherwise disposing of any interest in *The Times* or *The Sunday Times*."

he latter condition carried criminal law sanctions of a fine or up to two years' imprisonment, or both, under the Fair Trading Act, 1973. Similar penalties could be imposed if the papers were not published separately.

In February 1981 a new clause in the articles of association of TNL was adopted by special resolution. This said: "Neither the directors nor the company shall have power to do anything or procure or permit anything to be done which shall result in the selling or otherwise disposing of any interest in either *The Times* newspaper or *The Sunday Times* newspaper or the business of publishing either newspaper except on terms approved by and with the prior consent of Times Newspapers Holdings Limited in accordance with that company's Articles of Association."

Several national directors and other members of the main TNHL holding company board, of which Mr Murdoch is chairman, yesterday confirmed that they were not told of the transfer. Lord Dacre of

Continued on back page, col 1

Police arrest 194 in Poznan protest

Warsaw, Feb 14.—Police arrested 194 people, many of them high school and university students, during demonstrations yesterday in Poznan, Western Poland, the Polish news agency PAP reported today. The day marked two months of military rule in the country.

In Lublin, south-west Poland, a home-made bomb hidden among potatoes in a shopping bag was found at a petrol station yesterday, the agency said. It contained 13lb of explosives of the type used in mines. The device, connected ot batteries and a clock, was defused by a worker at the petrol station.

An explosion could have set off underground petrol tanks and caused "a massacre," PAP said. It added that the petrol station was near the premises of a party organization, a hospital and a school.

In the Poznan incident, PAP said, groups of people had gathered in the centre of the city, "provoked by leaflets inciting to demonstrations, the crowd shouted hostile slogans".

Without giving further details, the agency said police calls for the crowd to disperse weer ignored. Police then moved in and arrested 194 people", mostly high school and university students or persons who are neither employed nor studying anywhere".

It added that of those arrested 162 people were "punished by misdemeanour courts".

As a result of the disorders in Poznan, the regional defence committee decided to tighten a number of martial law restrictions which previously had been eased. As of tomorrow, private cars are banned in Poznan and the sale of petrol is prohibited except to people granted special permits such as doctors, veterinary surgeons and suppliers of farm produce. Cinemas, theatres and other public entertainment had been closed, the agency said.—Reuter and AFP

Defiant Warsaw, page 5

Soviet debts to Western banks up by $6,000m

The Soviet Union's net debts to Western banks rose by more than $6,000m (£3,260m), to $10,860m during the first nine months of 1981, according to a survey by the Bank of International Settlements in Basle.

The debt increase coincided with substantial sales by Russia of gold and oil despite a falling market.

At the same time, indebtedness to Western banks by members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has increased for the first time since 1978.

Details, page 13

Delaying action on lead in petrol 'would be criminal'

By George Brock

A major firm of management consultants, Coopers and Lybrand, criticize the Government in a report today for not making a commitment to lead-free petrol. Britain would be "criminal", it says, not to take every reasonable precaution against lead pollution even while there is still scientific debate about the dangers.

The report was commissioned by the Campaign for Lead-free Air (CLEAR) and follows a defence in the House of Commons by Mrs Thatcher of Government policy to reduce the lead content to 0.15 grams per litre by 1985.

Mrs Thatcher was answering questions from Mr Michael Foot after *The Times* published a letter from the Government's Chief Medical Officer, Sir Henry Yellowless, which warned last year that action should be taken over the dangers of lead in petrol which was putting at risk the health of thousands of children.

Coopers and Lybrand were asked by CLEAR to review recent scientific literature and to comment on the benefits and implications of a move to lead-free petrol. They conclude: "We thus have a situation where the potential costs of totally removing lead from petrol are substantial. Although difficult to assess without further research, it is possible within a few years to remove all lead from petrol, while still enabling the motor vehicle to operate effectively.

"However, on the other side of the tquation the potential costs of not removing the lead from petrol are uncertain but potentially enormous. The growing evidence that the intelligence of a substantial number of children may be adversely affected must be of major concern."

Although recommending more research into particular aspects of the problem, the consultants echo the Chief Medical Officer in saying that Government decisions should not wait for conclusive scientific proof. Lead pollution is, they say, "a complex and difficult subject and it may prove even more difficult than in the case of the health effects of smoking to quickly produce a cast iron demonstration that proves beyond all reasonable doubt the connection between lead absorption and health and behavioural effects.

The report analyses five options which were taken into account when the Government made its decision last year and which were published by the Department of Transport two years ago. "Option 2" was a reduction of petrol lead content to a maximum of 0.15 grams per litre—the choice eventually announced by the Government.

"Option 5" was for the Government to insist that new cars should run on lead-free petrol. But, Coopers and Lybrand say, the DoT report totally overlooked the further possibility of combining Options 2 and 5, a practical alternative which would achieve three objectives: the fastest reduction of lead emissions in car exhausts; the eventual introduction of lead-free petrol and the elimination of uncertainty for the petrol and car industries.

☐ Amoco, a leading oil company, has said it is considering producing lead-free petrol for the British market and could have supplied it 10 years ago had Government regulations required it, according to a report in *The Sunday Times* yesterday

Mugabe makes bitter attack on Nkomo

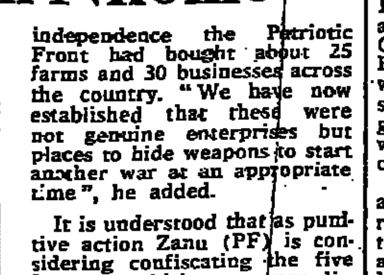
From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, Feb 14

Mr Robert Mugabe made a scathing personal attack this weekend on Mr Joshua Nkomo, his partner in Zimbabwe's coalition Government. He said a decision would be taken this week on the future of their alliance after the discovery of huge arms caches on farms owned by Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front.

The Prime Minister's speech was the most forceful public criticism he has ever made of his old rival. It includes a list of what he described as Mr Nkomo's failures and shortcomings as a leader which observers saw as a suggestion to resign.

Likening Mr Nkomo and his party to "a cobra in the house", Mr Mugabe said: "The only way to deal with a snake is to strike and destroy its head. How else can I describe a man we supposed was our friend and whom we invited to be part of the Government when it could have been just our party?"





Mr Robert Mugabe (left), who called his partner, Mr Joshua Nkomo (right), "a cobra in the house".

Mr Mugabe's speech was a consequence of a series of searches of Patriotic Front farms over the past week which have turned up caches of machineguns, ground-to-air missiles, mortars and automatic rifles.

Addressing a rally in Marandellas, Mr Mugabe said that Patriotic Front officials would be asked to explain the existence of the caches and that action by his own Zanu (PF) party could be expected to follow this week. He said he was deeply upset that while his party had been striving to consolidate Zimbabwe's independence the Patriotic Front had been stockpiling enough weapons to arm 20,000 men and "start another war".

Mr Mugabe said that since independence the Patriotic Front had bought about 25 farms and 30 businesses across the country. "We have now established that these were not genuine enterprises but places to hide weapons to start another war at an appropriate time", he added.

It is understood that as punitive action Zanu (PF) is considering confiscating the five farms on which arms were discovered. An amendment to emergency powers providing for the seizure of "enemy property" empowers the authority to act against an individual or organization deemed to have been involved in subversive activity.

Other action against Mr Nkomo and the Patriotic Front may also be under consideration but—bearing in mind the clashes between former Nkomo and Mugabe guerrillas this time last year when tensions were again running high—should stop short of scrapping the alliance.

Warning of more crime as police spending is cut

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Cuts in police spending have been agreed by the Strathclyde police and fire committee despite a warning by police of rising crime. And the West Midlands force also expects to face cuts as county council committee chairmen today resume a meeting adjourned after six hours on Friday to decide what to axe.

Mr Edwin Shore, chairman of the West Midlands Police Authority, said the police budget would be cut even though there was a 13 per cent rise in crime in the area last year.

The cuts will undermine the Government's promises that priority will be given to maintaining a strong police force.

The West Midlands is one of six provincial police forces where 5,000 jobs are threatened, according to the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

Mr Patrick Hamill, Strathclyde's Chief Constable, has linked a big crime increase there with financial cuts. The further squeeze decided by the police and fire committee on Thursday comes after a 3 per cent cut last year.

Strathclyde Regional Council's net expenditure on the police, at 1980 prices, fell from £100,169,000 in 1980-81 to £96,964,000 in 1981-82, and a proposed cut of a further £699,000 comes up for ratification by the full council on March 3.

In a letter to the committee in December, Mr Hamill reported that crime up to September last year was 11.4 per cent higher than in the same period in 1980. His annual report, due out on March 25, is expected to show a similar rise for the whole year.

Mr Hamill says that an important factor in the crime rise has been a reduction in preventive policing because the force had less money. He said the real cut in police on the streets was well over 150, as the force had to take on many duties formerly performed by civilians.

Strathclyde's authorized strength is 6,955, but it was reduced to 6,802 by December 31, by not replacing officers who left.

Cases of assault and robbery have gone up by 11 per cent in Strathclyde, and other increases include: carrying offensive weapons, 41 per cent; thefts and break-ins, 19 per cent; embezzlement, fraud and forgery, 27 per cent; drugs offences, 34 per cent; assaults on police, 38 per cent.

The figures are the more worrying because the police had previously contained the crime rise. There was a reduction in reported crime in 1977-78, followed by increases of 1.7 per cent in 1978-79 and 1.6 per cent in 1979-80.

Mr Shore, of the West Midlands, would not say where police cuts there are expected to fall, but likely targets are *traffic wardens, overtime working, or ancillary services.*

The cuts come as police in the inner cities seek to prevent a recurrence of last year's riots and to check mugging by putting more officers on patrol. The West Midlands force, particularly in Handsworth, has been a pioneer of community policing, which is seen as a reason why last year's troubles were not worse.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities has sent figures to the Home Secretary showing that the share of resources would increase by 24 per cent in 1982-83 for London's police, compared with 3.4 per cent for other forces. Mr Whitelaw has told the Association: "The possibility of a reduction is being looked at urgently."

Other councils where police jobs are said to be under threat include Merseyside, Greater Manchester, West and South Yorkshire and Tyne and Wear.

Newspapers bingo code sought by Opposition

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr John Fraser, the opposition consumer affairs spokesman, yesterday called on Government departments to join with the Office of Fair Trading in drawing up a code of conduct for newspaper bingo competitions after thousands of *Daily Mail* readers on Saturday visited and telephoned the newspaper's offices in the belief that they had won a large prize.

"It would avoid the bitter disappointment that they suffered after thinking they had won a lot of money when they checked their coupons", he said. Mr Fraser said it was his view that bingo games were ruinous to newspapers that featured them.

The *Daily Mail's* game is called "Casino" and is played with coupons distributed to homes.

On Saturday the paper published two numbers, 11 and 26, for Game Six, which had been running for 11 days. The floodgates opened and many readers who discovered that they had 17 numbers on their coupons, qualifying them for a prize or at least a share in a prize, headed for the paper's London offices.

The game offers a jackpot of £70,000 or a reduced, and shared, payout of £35,000 if no claim based on the first of the published numbers is received. The newspaper issued a statement asking claimants to send winning entries to them by recorded delivery, to arrive not later than tomorrow.

Mr Fraser said: "I think the papers that indulge in bingo all wish they could get out." He said this was not the first mix-up there had been in newspaper games. "There are already codes of conduct in other areas, such as prize draws, and I think the Department of Trade should look at it."

Newspaper bingo has been helping to increase the circulation of the popular dailies. The tabloids together put on more than 500,000 copies in the last six months of last year.

Hazel is the queen of Cruft's



Top dog: Champion Grayco Hazelnut, which was last night named Supreme Champion of Crufts, with her owner, Mrs Lesley-Ann Howard, of Godstone, Surrey. Mrs Howard immediately announced that three-year-old Hazel, the first toy poodle to win the title since 1966, would be retiring. A Scottish terrier, one of the six finalists, was withdrawn because the dog lived at the home of a judge.

Laker collapse brings Atlantic cash loss

By Arthur Reed

The Government is becoming increasingly worried about the amount of invisible earnings the country is losing on the air routes across the North Atlantic because of the financial collapse of Sir Freddie Laker's airline, Laker Airways.

Under the terms of the Bermuda II air services agreement with the United States, Britain is allowed two airlines on the busy London-New York and London-Los Angeles routes to compete against two US carriers.

Britain's nominees are British Airways and Laker, up against Pan American and Trans World, and the demise of Laker Airways means that BA is taking on the two US "giants" on its own.

Britain's overall share of the traffic, and therefore its earnings, are expected to go down as Pan Am and TWA increase their aggressive marketing in an attempt to attract passengers who would have travelled by Laker.

That significant gap in the British air route network is likely to remain for some weeks, however, as the Civil Aviation Act lays down a lengthy process to be followed by the Civil Aviation Authority before it can choose a successor to Laker.

The two main contenders are British Caledonian Airways, whose chairman, Mr Adam Thomson, has already made clear that he wants to pick up the London-Los Angeles licence, a route which the airline operated between 1972 and 1974, and Sir Freddie Laker, with his new partner, Mr Roland (Tiny) Rowland, chief executive of Lonrho.

British Caledonian filed a formal application for Los Angeles with the aviation authority just before the weekend, commenting: "There can be no possible argument against the fact that the experiment to licence Laker Airways to operate viably on the North Atlantic has failed in the most dramatic way, with an effect on thousands of consumers on both sides of the Atlantic.

"The most honourable solution is to sweep away the Laker Airways debris and let BCal have back the licence to pursue its interrupted proposals for a viable second British service between London and Los Angeles."

Technically, Laker still holds the New York and Los Angeles licences, which were operated with the airline's cheap fare Skytrain services. The CAA gave notice on the day of the collapse, February 5, of its intention to suspend them.

That notice was not received until four days later, and the Act lays down that suspension cannot take place until at least six working days after receipt, which makes Wednesday of this week the earliest day.

But the authority does not have to take immediate action, particularly if there are representations against suspension. It is understood that such representations have already been made. When a final decision to suspend is made, the Act lays down a further 21-day period before the licences can be revoked.

There are two options open to Sir Freddie in his efforts to start flying with his "people's airline". He can either wipe the slate clean and apply to start up as a completely new operator, or he can seek to have the existing licences transferred to a reconstructed company.

Although the procedure at the aviation authority would be slightly different in each case, he would be expected to prove in both instances that he is a fit and proper person financially and operationally to run an airline, and that his management record was satisfactory.

Opportunities would have to be given to objectors to state their case, and it is apparent that both BCal and British Airways would demand hearings.

In either case the procedure would be lengthy, and the chances of a new or revived airline flying the Atlantic by Sir Freddie's stated target date of April seem slim.

Meanwhile, Sir Freddie flew to Paris yesterday on a private aircraft owned by the Lonrho company. The reason for his trip was not immediately known, but Mr Paul Spicer, a Lonrho director, said he thought it was likely Sir Freddie was having talks with the Eximbank syndicate, which is owed about £121m for loans on DC10s and Airbuses.

British Airtours, a subsidiary of British Airways, announced yesterday that it had won a contract worth £11m to carry inclusive holiday passengers for Owners' Services Ltd/Viking to destinations in Europe this summer. That contract, which involves about 160,000 passengers, was previously held by Laker Airways.

Science report

History of the biggest visitor

By the Staff of "Nature"

The chequered history of the largest single meteoritic fragment to have reached the surface of the earth in recent times has been revealed by a series of measurements of short-lived radioactive materials carried out in Tokyo University and in San Diego, California.

The meteorite, which fell in the Jilin province of China on March 8, 1976, is remarkable because about four tons of fragments were recovered from the surface of the earth, the largest consisting of a lump of solid rock weighing about two tons.

The investigations carried out suggest that the Jilin meteorite was part of a much larger interplanetary object until about half a million years ago.

The Jilin meteorite has been recognized for years to have been one of the largest extraterrestrial objects to have reached the surface of the earth in recorded history. Only in the past two years, however, have samples of the meteorite been made available to investigators outside China. Although Chinese studies of fragments of the meteorite soon after its fall provided some information about its previous history, the data from the early investigations are neither revealing nor reliable.

Investigations of newly fallen meteorites are potentially valuable because they can throw light on the recent history of the object and, in particular, on its exposure to cosmic rays. Such bombardment induces measurable radioactivity in the outer and more directly exposed layers of a meteorite, from which it is possible to deduce the length of time for which those layers have been exposed to cosmic rays.

By similar measurements of samples taken from different depths beneath the surface of a meteorite, it is possible to work out the position of the meteoritic fragment reaching the surface of the earth within the presumably larger object of which it was earlier a part.

Measurements of radioactivity within the Jilin meteorite have been carried out by M. Honda of the University of Tokyo and K. Nishiizumi of the University of California at San Diego, together with a group of associates at Japanese universities. One of the radioactive materials used in the analysis, the isotope of aluminium called aluminium-26, seems to have been an especially useful guide to the history of the Jilin meteorite.

From the distribution of this and other radioactive isotopes within the fragments of the Jilin meteorite available for analysis, Honda and his colleagues conclude that the meteorite which produced the fragments falling over China in 1976 was a lump of rock about a metre and half across, which had been travelling through interplanetary space in that form for about 400,000 years.

Before that, however, the distribution of radioactivity within the rock appears to show that the Jilin meteorite had been part of a larger interplanetary body, perhaps as much as ten metres in diameter, but situated within about a metre of its surface. The measurements also suggest that the Jilin meteorite had existed in that form for the best part of 10 million years.

The interest of this series of difficult measurements is that it illustrates the detailed fashion in which the previous history of an interplanetary body may be reconstructed from more or less routine measurements of the distribution of radioactive materials within it. Ultimately, the result should be a more detailed understanding of the natural history of interplanetary meteoritic material.

Source: *Earth and Planetary Science Letters* (January, vol 57, p 101), 1982.

Rail hopes rest on McCarthy

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Correspondent

Hopes of ending the six-week-old national rail dispute were resting last night on a report by Lord McCarthy's inquiry team, which is not now likely to be published until tomorrow morning.

The three-man team were said last night not to have completed the report, the timing of which means that the next one-day strike by 20,000 drivers will go ahead from midnight tonight.

The executive of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, which declined to take part in the inquiry, may have to adjourn a session of its executive called for this afternoon until tomorrow.

As the rail network was shut down yesterday for the fifth successive Sunday, speculation continued that Lord McCarthy might recommend payment of the 3 per cent so far witheld from train drivers, and that the issue of flexible working be referred through the industry's own machinery for resolution within a matter of days.

Senior BR sources insisted last night that it would require a firm recommendation in favour of flexible rostering from the inquiry team and acceptance of that principle from Aslef before they would agree to payment of the 3 per cent. It remained open to the board to reject the report if those two issues were not settled.

Such a move would then leave the Railway Staff National Tribunal, which like the inquiry is chaired by Lord McCarthy, with the task of deciding the extent of variations to the eight-hour day.

☐ Mr Mostyn Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and British Airways management will hold talks today on the dispute involving 2,000 BA ground staff at Heathrow (the Press Association reports). The meeting was called after shop stewards rejected a BA peace formula on Saturday.

BA yesterday operated 85 per cent of its European services out of Heathrow, using volunteers to load luggage.

McAliskey charms the voters

In a crowd she is easily dwarfed by the people who flock around to glimpse or shake the hand of the small woman the world probably still knows best as Bernadette Devlin. Although she is now Mrs McAliskey, she was introduced after mass meetings in the Dublin, North Central, constituency by the name that made headlines 13 years ago when she won a seat at Westminster.

Three election campaigns later "Bernie", as many people in Dublin call her, is contesting a general election in what she describes as "my country" for the first time. Her message is very similar to the one that she took to the voters of Mid Ulster at the age of 21.

She excites loathing and liking in equal measures for her political stance, but now, as she trudges the suburban streets seeking support, there is also sympathy.

There is only a slight trace of a limp to remind people of the injuries she suffered a year ago when she was left unconscious after a "loyalist" assassination attempt.

good luck. Guts, determination, toughness and plain speaking are some of the words used by people who although they will not vote for her admire the spirit and fight of the woman who has chosen to stand in the same constituency as Mr Charles Haughey, the the opposition leader.

Mrs McAliskey is standing as an Independent backed by the People's Democracy and began her campaign with a donation of £100 from a prominent trade unionist and a £10 note thrust into her hand by a passer-by. A hard core of 50 supporters work with her each day to put across the message of Irish unity, British withdrawal from northern Ireland, withdrawal of the EEC workers, control of the economy and the maintenance of the republic's neutrality.

A full High Court hearing is expected to take place today when Provisional Sinn Fein attempts to have a conditional order quashing a government ban on them being allowed a party political broadcast made absolute.

MANY HELD IN RESEARCH BASE CLASH

A number of people were arrested last night after a demonstration at an animal research laboratory at Stock, near Chelmsford, Essex. Masked protesters armed with crowbars broke into the laboratory while sympathizers waved placards and chanted slogans outside. Six beagles taken from the premises were understood to have been recovered and returned by police.

The trouble started after about 100 people belonging to anti-vivisection groups gathered outside the laboratory, owned by Life Science Research, a private firm, a spokesman for whom said: "There is no way our tests are cruel to animals".

Union's one-man strike

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The first attempt to implement stricter policy on time off for trade union activity in the Civil Service has prompted retaliatory strike action. Ministers are expected to give the go-ahead shortly to rules aimed at monitoring more closely the "facility time" granted to officials of the Civil Service unions to carry out their elected duties.

But even before the tighter controls are introduced, the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA) has brought out on strike a Manchester clerical officer so that he can attend a TUC foundation course for union officials.

Mr David Gazdecki, aged 30, who works in the Withington unemployment benefit office, was warned that he would be disciplined if he defied local management instructions not to take unauthorized time off to attend the course every Thursday for 10 weeks at the Manchester Polytechnic.

He defied the ban for three weeks, and the CPSA last week brought him out on strike for the day to avoid the disciplinary procedure. Staff on official strike cannot be disciplined for unauthorized absence. In addition, 27 staff at the benefit office where he works walked out on Friday for half a day in protest over the time-off controversy.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 80; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq LD 0.500; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1800; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LI 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 90; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore S$ 00; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS5.50; Tunisia Dir 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

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Havers may act if rape outcry is not heeded

By George Clark

The public outcry about rape victims being subjected to humiliating cross-examination in court on their previous sexual experiences may lead to changes in police procedures and in the attitude of judges which would make new legislation unnecessary, Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, said yesterday.

But he agreed that the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act, 1976, which was designed to protect women from unnecessary cross-examination, was not always strictly observed in court, as an article in *The Times* on February 10 had pointed out.

"It may be that the reaction will be sufficient, that common sense will become clear and that this Act will be applied in the way that Parliament intended it to be", he said. "But if it is not, then of course we shall have to consider legislating."

Sir Michael, interviewed by Mr Brian Walden on the Independent Television programme *Weekend World*, was asked whether, where medical evidence showed that violence had been used, the burden of proof should be shifted on to the male defendant to show that the woman had consented.

Sir Michael replied that that would involve radical, fundamental change, but did not rule it out.

"A programme like this and a public outcry like this is very valuable because it makes all of us who have to deal with the law concentrate and become aware of the problems. The basic problem is that we must encourage women to come forward so that the rapists are convicted."

Asked if the Government would legislate to insist on automatic jail sentences for all convicted rapists, the Attorney General said: "We shall have to consider this very carefully. I think, really, the issue has been resolved by what the Lord Chief Justice has said.

"He has given a directive to all judges that except in wholly exceptional cases a rapist must go to prison at once. But if we have an automatic sentence I believe it will lead in a number of cases of minor rape . . . to juries finding a defendant not guilty."

He had in mind a case where a man persisted with a woman who had perhaps "gone off him" after a long relationship. If a jury knew there was a mandatory jail sentence they would find him not guilty. Sir Michael did not want to risk that happening because the jury did not want the man jailed automatically.

What action he might take on legislation would depend to some extent on what changes were brought in by the police and by the judges. He wanted to see complainants sympathetically treated by the police, and examined, if possible, in hospital and not at the police station, by a woman doctor, if available.

The programme included reconstructed scenes from trials, based on reports compiled by Zsuzsanna Adler, who wrote *The Times* article last week. "I am horrified by what I have seen in the programme today and by the article in *The Times* last week", Sir Michael said.

He was pressed to give his opinion about judges who had turned a blind eye to the 1976 Act. "The judges are just like any other human beings", he replied. "Some will be seeing this programme, they read the newspapers, they react to the climate of public opinion just like anyone else.

"I would suspect that a lot of them, when they are faced with the problem, are going to look at it in a new light in the future. If they do not, there is of course the power to legislate to restrict cross-examination even more. But in my opinion it is very tight at this moment."

The programme included the results of a poll taken by Opinion Research, using a sample of more than 1,000 women between the ages of 16 and 50. They were asked if they felt well enough protected by the law against rapists. Only 14 per cent replied "yes", and 79 per cent replied "no", while 7 per cent were unsure.



Dawn patrol: Group leaders striding out on Dartmoor on a course to prepare them for the Ten Tors expedition.

Learning to brave the elements

Teams of young people training for this year's testing Dartmoor Ten Tors expedition are likely to be better prepared than last April, when one group was lost for more than two days in a sudden blizzard (Craig Seton writes).

Over the weekend the Dartmoor Rescue Group held a special course for the managers of the fifty or so teams which will soon begin training for the May expedition organized every year for young people from schools, colleges, the Services and youth clubs. They walk different distances, depending on their age and experience.

Last year's snowstorm caused chaos among the groups training for the expedition on Dartmoor and a big rescue operation had to be launched when air cadets were missing. They were found, suffering from exposure, and there was later criticism that some of the teams were ill prepared for the conditions that Dartmoor can suddenly produce.

This weekend's "walking conference" was designed to ensure that such a dangerous situation does not arise again. Mr William Ames, the rescue group's secretary, said the team managers were taken out over the moor so that they could appreciate the difficulties that would be faced by young people who would probably be carrying heavy packs and facing bad weather for the first time. The managers were also told about the absolute necessity for their teams to wear the right clothing and carry the right equipment.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Alert over paraquat in river

Water supplies to 150 families were cut off yesterday after paraquat weedkiller contaminated a river and a stream. Police set up special patrols to guard the stream, at Morley, West Yorkshire, and warned thousands of people to keep away.

The paraquat escaped from storage drums after an explosion at a transport depot. The chemical mixed with water from firemen's hoses and poured into the stream. It also seeped into the River Calder, which runs through Morley, Wakefield and Castleford.

The Yorkshire Water Authority said tests had shown there was no danger to domestic water supplies, but as a precaution the families would remain disconnected for the time being.

A West Yorkshire police spokesman said: "It is vital that people stay away from this river. The chemical is highly toxic and can easliv kill. It wili be at least three days before the oanger passes."

New route for A27 section

The new route for the eight-mile section of the A27 trunk road between Havant, Hampshire, and Chichester, West Sussex, has been announced after a public inquiry that lasted several weeks.

The road will pass north of the excavated Roman palace at Fishbourne, near Chichester, and join the Chichester by-pass at its western end.

Announcing the new route, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Transport, said it would serve as a by-pass for several communities along the existing section of the A27 between Havant and Chichester.

Ilkeston man backed

The National Executive Committee of the Labour Pary has endorsed Counillor David Bookbinder as prospective parliamentary candidate for Ilkeston, Derbyshire. Mr Bookbinder, the leader of Derbyshire County Council, was adopted by the constituency Labour Party in preference to the sitting member, Mr Raymond Fletcher, MP.

Local radio 'fails on politics'

By Kenneth Gosling

Local radio is given low marks for its coverage of political affairs in a report prepared for the Independent Broadcasting Authority under its fellowship scheme.

Dr Anthony Wright, a lecturer at Birmingham University, says: "In the maelstrom of local radio, as one education producer remarked, it is difficult to believe that people are actually learning anything very much about politics.

"Something must rub off from news items, interviews, and phone-ins, insofar as listeners encounter these, but it is doubtful if much real political education is taking place".

Dr Wright says local radio, while claiming to encompass, represent, and integrate an entire local population, is prone to lock itself into a bland and breezy consensual style that carries with it a distaste for, and neglect of, local conflicts and disagreements, exemplified by its neglect of local politics. But that, he says, is a profoundly mistaken view of what a community is.

The modern local government system and the issues surrounding it are complex enough to require considerable expertise in unravelling them; yet only a handful of stations have a reporter or producer specializing in covering the local political system.

The absence of such expertise, Dr Wright adds, has seriously affected both the quantity and quality of political broadcasting in local radio. "It is one important reason why local radio has failed to have the impact on local democracy that was promised in its foundation documents".

It was surprising and disappointing that local BBC stations had not been adventurous in political broadcasting.

Local Radio and Local Democracy, a Study in Political Education by Anthony Wright (The Fellowship Officer, IBA, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1EY; free).

BLAST AT SHOPS

Three shops in the centre of Newton Abbot, Devon, were badly damaged by a gas explosion yesterday. No one was injured. The explosion started a fire and the area was cordoned off.

EEC talks unlikely to bridge price gap

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

On the eve of the resumption of the EEC farm price talks in Brussels, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, said yesterday that the common agricultural policy (CAP) should not be blamed for all food price increases.

There was a common misconception that there was a direct relationship between price increases decided as part of the CAP and the overall increase in the price of food, he said. It was important to recognize that the CAP price fixing was but one ingredient.

"Increases in world prices of such foodstuffs as vegetable oils, coffee, tea and tropical fruits, and fluctuations in commodity prices such as eggs, fruits, vegetables and many meats arise not from CAP price fixing but by forces of supply and demand, including, of course, the weather", he said.

Wage increases for retailers and food processors, energy and other costs, also had an important impact on prices.

The talks are unlikely to make more than minimal progress towards bridging the gap between the 9 per cent average increase recommended by the European Commission and the 16 per cent being requested by the Association of European Farmers' Unions (COPA).

Most agriculture ministers, including Mr Walker, want farmers to get as much as possible, but neither they nor their Cabinet colleagues can afford to ignore the protests of the food industry and of consumer groups who are opposed to any rises.

Another hindrance to progress is the hiatus caused by the general election in Ireland. Moreover, even if agreement were to be reached in principle, the British Government has said it will veto any inreases until the issue of its budget contributions has been settled.

One of the most contentious issues is likely to be the projected increase in butter prices, together with a proposed reduction in the special subsidy to British consumers.

Relationships within the Community have not been helped by the latest wrangle between Britain and France over allegedly illegal government subsidies to French farmers.

At the weekend the Ministry of Agriculture took the unusual step of issuing an unsigned statement rejecting in highly undiplomatic language a statement made by the French agricultural attaché in London.

"We are all amused at the pathetic attempt of an official of the French Embassy to suggest that the national aids poured into French agriculture by the French Government are in any way in line with those provided in Britain", it said.

"Everybody in Europe knows that the French Government's injection into the French agricultural bank, Credit Agricole, to subsidize interest rates to French farmers, is now equal to about 80 per cent of the total British agriculture budget".

A guide to French flair

By a Staff Reporter

The French section of this year's *Good Hotel Guide*, which is published today, has more entries than those for England and Wales combined, "A result in part of the favourable exchange rate, in part an indication of a shift in where people are taking their holidays, and in part a tribute to the flair shown by so many French hoteliers", Mr Hilary Rubinstein, the editor, writes.

The guide is the fifth and has nearly 700 entries, more than double the first year's total of 305 and 30 per cent more than last year's. Northern Ireland, Finland, Hungary and Luxembourg are represented for the first time.

Noting that Britain's hotels are still the most expensive in Europe, though no longer the most expensive in the world, Mr Rubinstein attacks the British "prejudice" against being in service, the cost of which is perhaps the most obvious reason for the high prices. "It is this antipathy", he says, "largely unknown in France, Italy, Spain or Portugal, which accounts for the anomaly that, at a time of exceptional unemployment, many hotels in Britain still have staffing problems."

The guide has an appendix written by the proprietor of an hotel in Devon on the pitfalls of opening a hotel without experience.

400% bus fares rise forecast

By David Walker

Bus fares in South Yorkshire are to rise by 400 per cent or more as the county council becomes the latest local auhority to heed the Law Lords' judgment condemning the Greater London Council's cheap fares scheme.

Labour members of the council, which covers the Sheffield to Doncaster area, are likely when they meet this evening to accept legal advice and plan a large fares rise. They will also promise a campaign of public agitation in the hope of persuading the Government to change the law to legalize substantial council subsidies for public transport.

Since the Law Lords' verdict, which appeared to place strict limits on the amount of subsidy for fares from the rates, West Midlands County Council has abandoned cheap fares, and Merseyside County Council has jettisoned plans for a fares cut.

South Yorkshire's councillors have known for weeks of strong legal advice against their 10-year-old policy of keeping fares to a minimum. But their decision to accept it is linked with a weekend meeting between councillors and members of the Labour Shadow Cabinet attending a party conference in Sheffield. The MPs promised that a future Labour government would reform subsidy arrangements, but Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour spokesman on the environment, said that meanwhile Labour leaders could not support breaking the law on the issue.

Bus fares in the Sheffield, Rotherham, Barnsley and Doncaster areas have scarcely risen since the mid-1970s. The distance of about 18 miles from Barnsley to Sheffield can be travelled by bus for 26p. Long rides within Sheffield cost only 4p.

In the wake of the GLC case and the successful challenge in the High Court to rates levied by the West Midlands council, lawyers have urged South Yorkshire council at least to show willing in making a fares increase.

Sick pay scheme 'will hit the poor'

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Government plans to make employers take over responsibility for paying sickness benefit will worsen the position of those low paid workers who are already being dismissed for being sick, it is claimed today.

The warning is given in a report by the Greater London Citizens' Advice Bureaux Service after a survey of employees seeking help because of dismissals connected with ill health.

More than 80 per cent of the people questioned had been dismissed when they sought advice from bureaux. The employer had specifically stated sickness as the reason in nearly three quarters of the cases, but one in four had been off ill for three days or less when they were dismissed and most had taken less than a week's sick leave the previous year.

Most of the people surveyed were low paid: 49 per cent earned less than £61 a week and 92 per cent less than £81. Most were manual workers and nearly 40 per cent were from ethnic minorities. Only 17 per cent belonged to trade unions.

Most of the employers were found to be either ignorant of current legislation or ignoring it. Nearly half the dismissed employees had not been given either notice or pay in lieu, and 60 per cent had no written contract of employment or statement of their working terms and conditions.

Who Pays Sick Pay? (Greater London Citizens' Advice Bureaux Service, 31 Wellington Street, London, WC2E 7QH. Free).

THE SINGLE HOMELESS WORSE OFF

Single homeless people face pernicious, third-class treatment from a Government acting by stealth, Mr Andrew Bennett, Labour MP for Stockport, North, said on Saturday.

He told the general meeting of Char, the campaign for single homeless people, that weekly benefit to those people had been cut by £5.20, or 22 per cent, on top of an across-the-board cut equivalent to three weeks' money for all claimants of unemployment and social security benefits.

The meeting at Leeds University also heard details of alleged discrimination against single homeless claimants in Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, Newcastle, Bradford, Birmingham, Swansea and London.

Char today publishes a practical guide.

Supplementary Benefits for Single Homeless People. Char, 27 John Adam Street, London, WC2. £1 plus 30p p&p.

DISPUTE AT REFINERY IS SETTLED

Fifteen hundred workers at Shell's Stanlow oil refinery, at Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, voted yesterday to accept the company's offer of an 8 per cent local allowance increase. Shell, which had been prompted to begin shutting down the refinery because of sanctions imposed by the men, began a return to full operations.

The company has lifted the suspension order on the employees and has guaranteed that no disciplinary action will be taken. The Stanlow workers were the only group at Shell's four refineries not to accept the company's offer.

☐ The 800 employees of the Merseyside and North Wales Electricity Board will be recommended at mass meetings today to accept a peace formula worked out between management and unions and call off their 12-day-old strike over the suspension of four colleagues.

SDP constitutional convention/London







Hand signals: Mr Roy Jenkins in thoughtful and challenging mood in winding up the SDP convention in London yesterday.

Enemies in partnership of fear, Jenkins says

By John Winder and Amanda Haigh

Mr Roy Jenkins said the SDP's remarkable successes of 1981 had come close to uniting the two old major parties in a partnership of fear against the Social Democratic Party.

Mr Jenkins, who was winding up the two-day convention at Kensington, outlined party policy on industrial relations after its MPs' split vote on the employment Bill in the Commons last Monday.

He said the convention had necessarily dealt only with the framework of machinery and not with the substance of policy, but every day it became more clear that the unique contribution the party and its Liberal allies could make was becoming more necessary and more urgent to the country.

The two main parties feared the SDP more than they feared each other. Their narrow dogmas had alienated more and more people and would never achieve a widening appeal across classes, regions and occupations. They had replied by trying to pretend that the SDP was all things to all men and women. It was not true.

There were many for whom there was no room in the SDP. It had no place for class warriors or for those who wanted to fight outdated ideological battles; no place for little Englanders; for those selfishly concerned with their own problems and not with those of their neighbours and the nation as a whole.

The Labour Party went increasingly into its chauvinist bunker and the Conservative Party showed little or no concern for the problems of the developing and poor nations.

The SDP had a specific industrial relations message on many points with which the employment Bill did not deal. Britain at work was a split society with energies of unions and management too often dissipated in a struggle with each other and no single action of government would do more to transform Britain's prospects than the establishment of a common purpose between management and workers. That required a new framework of industrial relations.

For industries to meet the international challenge they must be liberated from the industrial relations structure, which mirrored the conflict of the old two-party system.

The SDP approach would have four points to bring the unions back to their members; to encourage profit-sharing on a larger scale and to tackle abuses of trade union power.

Their aim remained firm and clear: to form a majority government with their partners in the alliance after the next election. He concluded: "Let us be determined to make 1982 as remarkable as 1981 has been and let us never forget our responsibility for the hopes we have aroused, the hopes of so many throughout the country who have been searching, sometimes subconsciously, for years past for a new opening, a new opportunity and a new deal. How we and the alliance conduct ourselves will determine whether we can make those hopes reality. It is a great opportunity but a great responsibility."

Constitution to run a decade

The constitution being prepared at the constitutional convention should run through the history of the party for a decade, Dr David Owen (MP for Plymouth, Devonport) said in opening the convention on Saturday. Leading members of the party took turns in presiding.

He said that the constitution which emerged would not be one which could not be changed, but no representative there should be under any illusion that the framework produced would have the maximum impact to be at Hillhead, where they all wished Mr Roy Jenkins every success.

The alliance, he said, would reach an agreement on seats allocation, but no one should be under illusion about how difficult the task was. No local party organization did not want its own SDP candidate, and equally not a single Liberal Party did not want to field a Liberal candidate. It was an immense challenge but they would succeed.

The press would highlight the odd difficulties and they must not be critical of them for doing their job. At that point, demonstrators from Islington interrupted from the gallery shouting, among other things: "Give us an unemployment centre in Islington." The two men and a woman refurled their large banner and were escorted quietly away by officials.

Dr Owen resumed, saying that the SDP would reduce the numbers of unemployed, responding to the challenges which faced the nation.

Three options on picking leader

The conference spent a great part of yesterday morning debating the method of election of the party leader. The decision on the method of election will be put to the party's 78,000 members who will be faced with three options, including election by MP's, by the whole membership or election by all members now and by MP's at some later stage.

Mr Grant Crawford (Hackney), opening the debate, moved an amendment saying that the person provisionally elected leader of the parliamentary party should only take office if endorsed by a majority of party members voting by post.

As a potential Prime Minister, the SDP leader must have the confidence of the parliamentary committee, he said. The amendment recognized that it was unacceptable for MPs to have a leader foisted on them but also that all members had a right to be satisfied with the party leader.

Mr David Heap (West Glamorgan) moved an amendment to provide for ratification of the leader, after election by MPs, by the council. He said they were not choosing a winner and losers, but a victor ludorum, a prince among equals.

The Four might well have been a gang, but they had been a team and when this was over they would still be friends. That had been the strength of the collective leadership.

Mr Humphry Berkeley (Hounslow), former Conservative MP for Lancaster, moved an amendment to allow election by MPs without the need for ratification.

He said that he could claim no political virginity since he was probably the only person in the hall who had been an elected delegate at both Conservative and Labour conferences. They could not ask MPs to vote for a leader and then tell them they were wrong.

Endorsement by council or membership inevitably involved the possibility of rejection which his political instincts told him would make the party look ridiculous.

Mr Jonathan Marks (Kensington and Chelsea) moved an amendment to provide for election by the whole membership until the next general election and then by MPs. He said the present parliamentary party could not claim to be a representative body for electing the leader. The party had a large and well-informed and sensible membership who should be asked to make the initial, vital choice.

Mr Kenneth MacDonald (Glasgow, South) moved an amendment to provide for election by the membership until there were 100 SDP MPs, when election would revert to them.

Mr Mike Thomas (MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East), moved an amendment to provide for election by the membership with a compulsory review of the system after three years.

He said under the present unfair election system, the SDP might still have very few MPs after the election. The 78,000 members should be given the right to choose.

Mr Eric Owen (Clwyd) moved an amendment to provide for election by the membership without a formal review of the system later. He said there must be no backtracking on the fundamental principle of one member, one vote.

Mr Chris Foy (Brighton and Hove) said that an endorsement process could leave them facing two ways. It was a bodging arrangement.

Mr Norman Jones (Leeds) said that the parliamentary group was too small to elect the leader.

Mr Christopher Pitchers (Leicestershire) said that he did not share the view that MPs would always make a cool, dispassionate and correct decision. Mr Foot and Mrs Thatcher had been elected by MPs; Mr Steel by party members. Leaving aside policies, who was the best leader? As a new party the SDP should trust the membership with important decisions.

Mr Robert Maclennan (MP for Caithness and Sutherland) said the steering committee had decided it was inappropriate to express its own majority view again on the issue but rather that they should not deal with the substance of the amendments but simply suggest to the convention an appropriate means of putting the issues to the membership at large.

Each representative had a printed ballot paper with the options arranged on it.

Representatives voted as follows: for election of the leader by MPs: 63; for election by the membership now, changing to election by MPs at later stages: 73; for election by the whole membership: 163. Prolonged applause greeted announcement of the latter figure.

Of those voting for the first option 17 went on to vote for ratification of the election by the council; 37 for no ratification; six for ratification by the members and three for ratification by council with alternatives to follow if ratification were refused.

Of those who voted for the second main option 62 voted for changes after the next election and 11 for changes after SDP parliamentary strength reaches 100. Of those who voted for the final option, 83 voted for a compulsory review after three years and 81 for no formal review, with two not voting.

Dr David Owen then announced that as a result the membership would be asked to decide between three options of election by MPs; election by full membership of the party until an election and then reverting the election to the parliamentary party and, thirdly, election by full membership with a review of the method in three years' time.

Against the wishes of the steering committee, the convention voted by 143 votes to 124 to enable the constitution to be amended if a majority of the council and a ballot of all members favoured it.

The convention was split on whether there should be positive discrimination to enable women and men to be elected in equal numbers to the Council for Social Democracy.

A recounted vote, demanded by representatives, showed 150 for and 150 against a proposal that council members from any area should include at least one member of each sex. Areas will elect two or three members. An earlier vote had shown 145 in favour of the proposition and 146 against.

Mr Roy Jenkins indicated from the chair that the whole membership will now decide the issue.

A large majority accepted a steering committee proposal by Mrs Shirley Williams, MP for Crosby, setting out the composition of the Council of Social Democracy, to comprise a president, members elected by each area party; all party MPs and members coopted by the council.

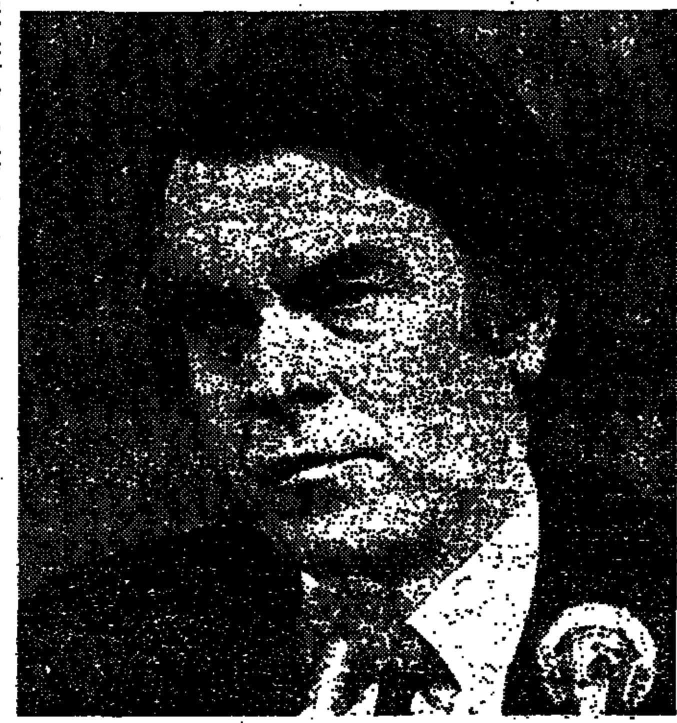
Mrs Williams said the council would have the right to coopt up to 5 per cent of its number to represent groups in society not otherwise represented and to recruit individuals whose contribution to the party was regarded by the council as indispensible.

Each area should elect a man and a woman and those consisting of more than three constituencies would have a third representative of either sex. That was not a philosophy of positive discrimination but a policy of equal opportunity, she said.

Political institutions were profoundly unrepresentative. Women made up 52 per cent of the population, but only 3.1 per cent of the Commons. There was not one black or brown MP in a theoretically-representative Commons, she said.

Mr Trevor Beswick (East Cheshire) moved the amendment to reject the positive discrimination element. He said that women's groups pushing for positive action knew they would not get office by other means. Mrs Williams had not needed positive discrimination to get where she was. The SDP should remain totally non-discriminatory.

Mr Mike Thomas (MP for Newcastle upon Tyne, East) said the constitution of the party should guarantee members' right to see a balanced short-list for parliamentary candidates but there was no obligation to select either women or men.



Dr David Owen at the conference microphone

Introducing the debate on selection of candidates, he said that the constitution as proposed by the steering committee would establish the important principle that no process of short-listing would tend to restrict the choice in an unreasonable way to all men, all women or all local candidates. A reserve power to the National Committee to add two names to a short list was only intended for use in extremis.

Mr Ashley Steinhausen (Brent) opposed the proposals and moved an amendment to delete the requirements that minimum numbers of men and of women respectively should be on the short-list. Why should women be the only group singled out for special support? They had under-representation of black people and to be consistent should have positive discrimination in their favour.

Mr Roger Fox (Ealing) said that to put two women on a short-list of six to nine was hardly a great act of positive discrimination. And Mrs Hilda Nixon (North Norfolk) said that women would still have to get there by merit. The proposal would ensure that they had a chance.

Mr Fred Bleach (Mid Surrey) said that if there was a lack of women it was not because of discrimination but because of lack of confidence in coming forward.

The steering committee amendment was carried after the Brent amendment was narrowly rejected on a show of hands. That amendment was again rejected, by 172 votes to 126, after appeals for a counted vote.

The convention voted by 147 to 116 to delete from its constitution a statement that the party would have concern for the individual regardless of "sexual orientation". It retained a commitment to create an open, classless and more equal society which rejected prejudices based on sex, race or religion.

Mr Kenneth Brown (North West Derbyshire) moved the amendment to delete the phrase, saying it seemed to have been written by a mixture of a Whitehall bureaucrat and a woman's page of *The Guardian*.

Ms Gillian Walker (South Shropshire) opposing the deletion said Mr Brown's amendment was designed to "purge the party of queers". She was repeatedly heckled as she said the wish to delete "sexual orientation" meant the mover of the amendment would discriminate against homosexuals. She was sickened and repulsed by the thinking behind the amendment.

Ms Polly Toynbee, for the steering committee, said the reference to "sexual orientation" should be retained. It was put into the constitution as a sign of the party's commitment to the fair treatment of minorities of all kinds. One in 10 of the population was homosexual though an inescapable fact of nature. They were harassed and persecuted, many lost their jobs and lesbian women often lost the custody of their children.

Members voted that area parties should retain 20 per cent of members' subscriptions after hearing that the local parties were starved of funds and might not have the money to fight elections successfully.

An amendment to the draft constitution that the national committee should direct that at least 20 per cent of members' subscriptions should be returned to their area party was agreed by 172 votes to 107.

An amendment was also agreed that decisions relating to subscriptions should be taken by the Council for Social Democracy, having considered the advice from the national committee, where the power had rested.

Mr Peter Birkby (Bradford), who moved the amendment that the level of subscription should be set by the council, said that area members had thought that the national committee decision to allow the areas to take £3 this year from subscriptions applied to all members, including renewals, but in fact applied only to new members.

Mr Tony Slade (Ealing), moving the amendment for the 20 per cent deduction, said it was vital. The party believed in decentralization, but could not have it if the parties were starved of funds.

Members paid £11, a high subscription for a political party, and it was unreasonable to expect them to dig into their pockets and raise funds for all their activities. Ealing had 35 candidates for local elections, costing £3,500 which the area did not have. If more money was not returned to local parties to fight local elections, they would not win and would not have a power base for the general election.

Mr John Rist (Aberdeen) said area parties must be guaranteed a minimum amount for local business. It was easy at the centre to forget the desperate financial needs of local groups.

Mr Peter Veevers (Wiltshire) said the money should go to the central party because of the danger of local parties dissipating the money, leaving the party vulnerable.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (MP for Teeside, Thornaby, and vice-chairman of the party's finance and general purposes committee) said the party faced an enormous task on finance. Unlike the Conservative Party or the Labour Party it could not have a pipeline from either big business or trade unions.

The first year's budget at SDP headquarters was £750,000, compared with more than £2m at Labour head office and more than £4m for Conservative administration. The party was by no means in the big league, and it wanted to maintain its base in members rather than institutions.

The committee understood the problems for local areas in building the party. That was why it had introduced the £3 rebate on new member subscriptions as a recruitment incentive. The 20 per cent amendment would be a severe blow to the national administration and budget. Almost certainly staff would have to be made redundant.

An amendment to ensure that an applicant's membership address was his or her main residence, and to allow the chief executive to delete any other address from the membership register, with a provision for appeal to a tribunal, was rejected on the advice of the steering committee.

Mr Tim Lloyd (Islington who moved the amendment, said that experience from the Labour Party showed that there could be real scope for infiltration into a vulnerable area and influence local authority candidate selection.

Regional tier of party organization voted out

Representatives voted overwhelmingly on Saturday to remove the regional tier of party organization and to establish the area of between one and seven constituencies as the main organizational body and the electorate for the Council of Social Democracy.

Mr William Rodgers (MP for Teeside, Stockton) said that SDP membership now stood at more than 78,000 all fully paid, and new members continued to join at the rate of several hundred a week, showing that the momentum of the party was being maintained.

The alliance with the Liberals was a success story too. The two parties remained distinct and separate with their own style and loyalties but had more in common in terms of values, objectives and policies than the left and right wings of either the Tory or Labour parties.

The four SDP leaders and Mr David Steel had a closer political relationship than that between Mr James Prior and Sir Keith Joseph or between Mr Denis Healey and Mr Wedgwood Benn.

"In these circumstances it would plainly be madness to fight each other in any constituency at the general election. We shall not do so. Our agreement will require great understanding at every level. Both parties will need to make concessions but the country expects us to achieve a constructive and effective alliance at the earliest possible moment and this we shall do."

The decision that the party should be organized in area parties, accepted by the steerng committee, had been taken for five reasons.

Where membership was strong, it was thought that could help weaker parts of an area. It was inevitable in any political party, especially a new one, that there could be strong personalities or individuals wishing to establish fiefdoms of their own. The possibillity of that happening, and of it being based on a single individual from one of the old political parties, would be substantially reduced if the party was organized in areas.

In an alliance with the Liberal Party, where seats were being shared, it was very important that no members should feel that they were disfranchised. Inevitably SDP members in a constituency to be fought by the Liberals would be disappointed. The disappointment would be much greater if the organization was on a constituency basis alone and members could play no part in fighting a general election on behalf of the SDP.

If boundary changes came before the next general election, it would be foolish to build on existing boundaries only to find that they were changed on the eve of the general election. It would also be foolish to build on new boundaries to find that the changes did not get through the House of Commons.

Finally, with the prospect of proportional representation being introduced by a Liberal-SDP government, it would be a good idea to begin now to think about something other than the conventional politics of the old electoral system.

The amendment to accept the area as the basis of organization was carried by a large majority.

Leading article, page 11

Heseltine stands by government cuts

From Ronald Kershaw, Harrogate

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, was in unrepentant mood when he discussed central and local government cuts at the Young Conservatives' annual conference at Harrogate yesterday.

He desclosed that the Government target was "the lowest number of civil servants since the war".

He added: "In central and local government we assert our determination and indeed our duty to scrutinize what the public sector does, to reduce it if, as now seems important, we must, or to increase it when circumstances permit. Who else can discharge such a responsibility if it is not the central Government?"

Mr Heseltine said that the Government was now forced by events to retrench. At no time was that more urgent then when, at the depth of a recession, the private sector was carrying the lion's share of the strain.

No postwar Government had achieved what this Government had done in reducing the number of directly employed civil servants. Mr Heseltine gave as an instance his own department, where "with very few redundancies, we have reduced our numbers by about 10,000 people already. So it can be done."

Acknowledging that he was closely identified with the Government's attempt to reduce the cost of services in local government, Mr Heseltine said he was unrepentant.



Mr Cecil Parkinson: Call for determination.

He knew of the economies made by many, and particularly by many Conservative local authorities, with only acceptable reductions in service, or by higher charges met by people could afford to pay.

That was all in a proper attempt to balance the strain of the present recession, which was much too heavily falling on the private sector.

But he added: "If I am unrepentant about the need for economies, so equally am I unwilling to see public-sector employees as somehow a race apart from the private sector".

The weakness of the nationalized industries was not in the quality of the people who worked for them. The failure was in the lack of any clear understanding of what was expected of those industries.

The system frustrated sucess, Mr Heseltine said. To cheers he added: "So we shall always be prepared to consider, and where appropriate to act, to restore private sector and individual ownership."

Nobody should doubt the concern of the Government about the level of unemployment. It would exhaust every policy initiative that could contribute to genuine jobs. He said he saw "the lack of work, the absence of personal satisfaction, the denial of achievement as a corrupting force beyond measure".

Earlier the conference had rejected a motion from Wallasey Young Conservatives noting with regret the "perceived hardness" in the Government's attitude towards the unemployed and calling on the Cabinet to take a more positive approach "in emphasizing our party's philosophy of uniting the nation".

On ethnic minorities, Mr Heseltine said: "The issue is directly about how in a short period of time we can ensure that the black community believes that the opportunities open to it are as real in practice as the opportunities open to everyone else".

Mr Cecil Parkinson, chairman of the Conservative Party, said earlier that he looked for nerve and guts from the Young Conservatives to stick by the policies on which the party was elected. Mrs Margaret Thatcher had never lost hers. It was determination and courage which would give the party another victory at the next election.

Mr Parkinson described the Social Democrats as a threat to realism. "It took Britain many cruel years to learn the cruel lessons. It took years of solemn and binding agreement, of social contracts and of concordats for people to develop their healthy distrust of instant cures", he said.

"When people voted the Conservatives back in 1979 it was because they accepted that our national sickness needed surgery and intensive care. Now, half way through the operation, the patient faces a new infection.

"It comes from the SDP's answer to extra-parliamentary action, that showman and travelling salesman who has now set up his stall at Glasgow, Hillhead. He, with his two sales assistants, Dr Death and Mrs Shirley Grunwick, burst in selling an unlabelled, rose-coloured instant cure out of claret bottles.

"I say to the country, 'do not swallow it. Your have had it before, it did you great harm. It cost you dearly. It would set you back years'."

He said of the SDP conference at Kensington: "I wonder if they have reached the clauses on 'party unity', 'obeying the party whip' and 'collective responsibility'". He offered them a word of friendly advice that these should be drafted rather loosely.

Mr Parkinson said in reference to the five SDP MPs who ignored their party whip on the Employment Bill last week and to the five others who abstained: "It was the classic O turn. A tightly formed ring of confusion and bewilderment. Now the electorate will know what they are voting for if they vote SDP. They will be voting for trade union reform, against trade union reform and for abstaining on trade union reform."

Councils feel they are hamstrung by lawyers

From David Walker, Sheffield

The Labour Party's national headquarters is to be asked to provide legal advice to guide Labour councillors on the limits of their powers, as a means of checking the often cautious guidance of their paid officials.

The party's annual local government conference, which ended yesterday in Sheffield, heard councillors from all parts of the country complain that in the wake of the Greater London Council fares judgment lawyers were being called in to check their every move.

Only the left-wing councillors, such as Mr David Bookbinder, leader of Derbyshire County Council, who was talking at a fringe meeting, expressed the view that councils should gladly go into "the risk business".

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, called the legal position of local authorities "precarious and absurd". Professor John Stewart, of Birmingham University, a local government expert, told a conference session that there was no reason for panic. But he said that the notion of "fiduciary duty" raised by the Law Lords had given lawyers' opinions a novel and worrying weight in council's decisions.

It seems certain the issue will be raised in the party's national executive committee.

Because of the present legal confusion, the Labour leaders at Sheffield promised wholesale reform of local government's role. They committed the party to a series of important changes if Labour came to power. Mr Foot promised to repeal the present system of distributing rate support grants.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour's education spokesman, spoke of protecting schools and colleges by a special grant.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, the spokesman on the environment, revoked his promise of last year to introduce a local income tax, and seemed to favour the retention of property rates in one form or another.

"There must be no interference by central Government in the way local government spends locally raised money", he said.

"Decentalization" was on the lips of many councillors. To Mr Andrew McIntosh, of the GLC, at a Fabian Society fringe meeting, it meant putting the health service and the Manpower Services Commission under local control.

To others, the word meant stealing a policy associated with the Liberals and encouraging community and tenants' groups to do work now done by town hall officials.

To judge by Labour councillors' formal statements in Sheffield, the Social Democratic and Liberal Alliance poses little threat in the May elections.

GYMNAST DIES

Mr Danny King, aged 22, of Kimberley Road, Leicester, died yesterday in a vaulting accident as he performed in a gymnastic display before more than 1,000 people in Leicester. He is understood to have broken his neck.

US PILOT KILLED

The pilot who was killed when an RAF Harrier jump jet crashed on the Berwyn mountains in north Wales, during a training exercise on Friday was named yesterday as US Navy Lieutenant John Michael Macbeth, of Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Warsaw keeps protest alive with candles

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Feb 14

Lights flickered briefly and candles of protest shone from Warsaw windows last night by there were no violent street demonstrations in the Polish capital to mark two months of martial law.

Reports from Gdansk today said that police and soldiers had cordoned off the memorial to shipyard workers killed in 1970 in case it again became a rallying point for demonstrations, but it is still unclear whether there were any clashes last night.

Solidarity leaflets in the captial had called for passive demonstrations, industrial go-slows, the wearing of black armbands, a sympolic black-out between 9 pm and 9.15 pm. In fact, this advice was only partially followed: in Nowy Swiat, a central thoroughfare, about one in five lights were switched off in apartment blocks.

The luke-warm response to the underground appeals may well have been influenced by a massive show of strength on Thursday and Friday nights when columns of armoured vehicles drove to and fro in the capital during the rush hour.

Certainly the object in Gdansk appears to have been, as one Solidarity sympathizer put it, "preemptive intimidation". Women and children had planned to march through the streets but it is uncertain whether they managed to go ahead with their plans in the face of a particularly strong military presence.

"There was a soldier in front of every shopfront", said on traveller who arrived in the capital yesterday. All telephones links with Gdansk are cut.

Two unconfirmed reports of passive protests in Wroclaw and Lodz have reached the capital, but again the police and Army, though much in evidence, appear to have been under strict instruction not to over-react.

Communist sources say that there has been considerable criticism in Gdansk about the way that the police handled a demonstration in the port two weeks ago, a demonstration which turned into a riot partly because of the excessive thoughness of the riot police.

There is still some mystery about the township of Swidnik, near Lublin, where, according to initial reports from the official PAP news agency, there was subtantial unrest. Curfew had been imposed from 7 pm, the toughest in the country — the use of private cars was banned and the telephone network cut off. A subsequent message from PAP then told editors to ignore the report but no explanation was offered.

Swidnik helicopter factory was the scene of unrest in the first few days after the imposition of martial law on December 13, with soldiers, according to one unconfirmed report, firing blanks over the heads of the crowd.

Summary trials in both military and civil courts have been continuing. The latest verdict, however, is not for organizing strikes but for espionage, thus fitting into the general propaganda thrust of linking the Central Intellingence Agency with the Polish crisis.

Mr Bogdan Walewski, a former employee of the Polish Foreign Ministry, was sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment and 10 years' deprivation of civil liberty — making an early amnesty impossible — for revealing the names of Polish agents to the CIA.

The prosecution had demanded the death sentence. Mr Walewski had previously worked in the United States personnel department, the Polish Embassy in Moscow and the Polish Foreign Ministry's protocol section.

☐ Moscow: Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister, was today quoted as saying that the Soviet Union had a vital interest in the reestablishment of normal life in Poland and was giving its ally considerable economic aid (Reuter Reports). In an interview with a Japanese newspaper, released here by Tass, Mr Tikhonov gave the Kremlin's unambiguous backing to the imposition of martial law in Poland.

But he gave no clear indication of how far Moscow was prepared to go in shoring up the Polish economy and helping Warsaw pay its debts to the West.

Western defence

US tells allies to pay fair share

Munich, Feb 14.—Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Secretary, called on Western Europe yesterday to contribute more to the defence of the Western alliance, and to curb trade with the Soviet block.

His remarks were followed today by a call from General Bernard Robers, Nato's Supreme Commander in Europe, to the allies to increase their defence spending from 3 per cent to 4 per cent a year in real terms.

Both men were addressing a meeting of 150 Westen military and political officials, including Dr Josef Luns, the Nato Secretary-General.

Mr Weinberger warned them that latent isolationism could be revived in the United States — which would be "a great tragedy" — if West Europeans did not assume what he called a fair share of rising defence costs.

Ordinary Americans might ask whether protection for their allies was necessary or sensible if there were a lack of response from Europe, said Mr Weinberger who is on his way home from a Middle East tour, this could lead to great difficulties in Congress.

He said the annual 3 per cent target increase in defence spending would not be very useful if it went solely on pay rises for soldiers and not on raising the alliance's firepower.



Mr Weinberger: Threat of isolationism.

General Rogers said he wanted a 4 per cent increase to counter what he called the "worrying weakness" of the West against Soviet military might. Nato's conventional forces must be strengthened, he said.

On trade, Mr Weinberger reinforced American opposition to a proposed pipeline bringing Soviet gas to Western Europe, and called for what he called a return to discipline in trade with the Soviet block. which

There were no objections to trade as such, but Soviet block military strength should not be further improved by Western technological expertise.

Families of cooking oil victims stage sit-in

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Feb 14

Some 800 relatives of people who were killed or disabled by adulterated cooking oil today continued their sit-in which began last Friday in 20 churches in Madrid and towns near by. They are demanding improved medical care, speedier payment of special compensation and fuller information about the nature of the illness.

With the death toll from the "toxic syndrome", now standing at 262, and with probably permanent lesions noted in many of the 17,000 who were made sick, the protesters are demanding a meeting with Señor Manuel Nuñez Perez, the Minister of Health and Consumer Affairs.

They intend to present a petition to him seeking authorization of abortion for pregnant women suffering from the illness. Abortion is outlawed in Spain.

Nine months after the first case of the toxic syndrome was recorded at Torrejon, near Madrid, no antidote for the poison has been found

At a news conference called here yesterday in reaction to the sit-in representatives of the Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs said that so far 800 pesetas (£4.4m) have been paid out in special compensations.

Air-sea search for 15 crew called off

The Atlantic air and sea search for 15 missing seamen has been called off, Falmouth coastguards said, because there was no hope of finding any further survivors from the Greek vessel Victory (the Press Association reports).

Seventeen men who had been clinging to the ship's stern section were winched to safety on Saturday by a Lynx helicopter althouth one man was later found to be dead.

Of the rest of the 32-man crew, all but two had taken to a lifeboat. A Nimrod search aircraft sighted the craft empty and badly damaged, according to a coastguard spokesman who also said that the other two men gave up clinging to the wreck of the Victory late on Friday night when it developed a 45-degree list. "It is impossible for anyone to survive in the sea for more than six hours in these temperatures", he said.

☐ The final rescue of 16 seamen from the Victory will go into archives as a classic example of the multinational air-sea rescue services based in Britain and extending well into the Western Approaches of the Atlantic, one of the most dangerous sea areas in the world (John Chartres writes).

British, American, Dutch and Belgian ships and aircraft were involved in the operation which was all controlled by the Royal Air Force Southern Rescue Coordination Centre at Plymouth.

The key to the action was the early presence overhead of RAF Nimrod long-range aircraft whose primary role is to spot potential enemy ships. The Nimrods were able to pinpoint the scene of the impending disaster and stayed overhead night and day to guide other rescue ships and aircraft to the area.

There was particular pride yesterday at the United States Air Force base at Woodbridge in Suffolk that at last one of their HH53c helicopters known as "Super Jolly Green Giants" of the 67th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron had been able to make an important contribution to a civilian rescue around British shores.

The big helicopters are the only aircraft of their kind in the West capable of in-flight refuelling and with a normal operational radius of 600 miles. They have seldom been able to contribute to rescue actions around Britian because of the time it takes to prepare them for a "scramble" — more than an hour compared with about 10 minutes for an RAF or Royal Navy rescue helicopter.

But on this occasion it was a Green Giant from Woodbridge that first reached the Victory, 800 miles west of Land's End. With some exceptional feats of airmanship its crew managed to get a line across from the stern section of the stricken tanker to another ship.

The presence of two Lynx aircraft from Dutch frigates exercising in the area was another example of the valu to air-sea rescue of N ships. Helicopter carry vessels are often "some where around"

Warning on democracy by Ecevit

From Robert Schuil
Amsterdam, Feb 14

The Western community should refuse to tolerate Turkey's "second-rate democracy", Mr Bulent Ecevit, the former Turkish Prime Minister, said in an interview from Istanbul with Dutch television, broadcast at the weekend.

Mr Ecevit was recently released after two months in prison for defying the military regime's ban on public statements by former politicians.

Asked if he was afraid he would have to go to prison again after the interview Mr Ecevit, speaking in English, said: "I don't know, but if one wants to live in a free society, of one wants to contribute to the establishment or reestablishment of democracy in one's country then one should take some risks. After all, freedom and democracy are worth taking some risks for".

He was outspoken on the attitude Nato and EEC countries should take on military rule in his country.

"I should like to express my opinion in terms of he priniple. If Turkey is a member of the community of the democratic nations of the West as we are, then the same criteria, the same standards of democracy should be applied to Turkey as to any other Western democratic society;

In my view, the true friends of Turkey are those who apply the same democratic criteria and who object to the violation of freedom and human rights in Turkey as they would in their own countries.

"I believe that those who are content with second rate democracy for Turkey so long as Turkey serves the security interests of the West may not be as real friends of Turkey as the others".

Mr Ecevit showed little faith in the type of democracy promised by the country's military rulers, within the framework of a new constitution to be introduced in 1984.

Ceausescu pleads for détente

From Dessa Trevisan
Bucharest Feb 14

President Ceausescu of Romania has told Mr Alexander Haig that sanctions against Poland are counter-productive. During four and a half hours of talks there yesterday he urged the continuation of the East-West dialogue in general and the Helsinki process in particular in order to ease tension.

Mr Haig, who visited Bucharest on the last leg of his European tour, told a press conference here that there were differences between the two sides over the issue of martial law in Poland, but added that there was agreement and that it was important to talk and seek ways of reducing tension.

The Romanians have been particularly worried about the impasse in the Madrid review conference and the tough United States stand there. Mr Haig said that to continue business as usual while Poland was in a state of siege would be a mockery of the Helsinki Accords.

But, he added, it was President Reagan's view that in time of increased tension it was "extremely important to talk to East European nations which are willing to talk and seek ways of reducing it in a constructive dialogue".

He singled out Romania for pursuing a relatively independent policy and "ever-mindful of its geography" in asserting its independent stance. This was taken as an indication that Washington accepted Romania on its merit and as a demonstration of American support for Romania's specific international policy.

At a time when Romania is facing considerable financial problems and a huge debt which it is hoping to have rescheduled, the Haig visit is regarded as especially important. Mr Haig said that while the question of debts could not be discussed at this level, the talks had created a good climate

Missing persons inquiry blames security forces

From Alan McGregor, Geneva, Feb 14

Slow by sure progress in determining the fate of "disappeared persons" in a score of countries is indicated in the 1981 report of the investigating group set up two years ago by the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

Most of the missing were abducted by security forces in state-inspired terror campaigns against political opponents.

During the year the group headed by Lord Colville, British delegate to the commission, received information on 2,100 people in 22 countries. Six governments did not reply to communications: Guinea, Indonesia, Iran, Lesotho, Uganda and Zaire. Otherwise the group has established direct contact, in some cases steadily yielding information.

Two members visited Mexico last month, the first time a country under such scrutiny has opened its doors. Chile, by contrast, is refusing to cooperate, charging that the group's procedures are discriminatory. Both El Salvador and Guatemala are replying to inquiries.

Argentina is in a category by itself because of the sheer numbers who disappeared after the 1976 military coup — no fewer than 5,000 to 6,000 — although Argentine human rights bodies put the total five or six times higher. But last year only eight cases were notified to the Government and each has since been officially explained.

The group is managing to trace some of the children who were either abducted with their parents in Argentina or born in prison. It has the names of 84. Last year five others were traced and put in touch with relatives.

The group often has great difficulty extracting minimal information, but with wider recognition of its humanitarian and non-political purpose, it is finding that the trickle may become a stream in response to better informed questions.

Mr Theo van Boven, director of the United Nations Human Rights Division, whose services have been dispensed with by Senör Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the new Secretary-General, was instrumental in the group's creation and has put all his weight behind it.

His departure is unlikely to mean a change of emphasis as his deputy, a Ghanaian, was formerly his country's delegate in the Human Rights Commission and also the group's first chairman.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Council to succeed Ayatollah

New York. — President Seyyed Khamenei of Iran said in an interview that a council of three to five members would eventually succeed Ayatollah Khomeini. He also hinted that Iran was willing to buy arms from the soviet union.

In an interview with *Newsweek*, he also said that Iran expected to win its war with Iraq very soon; that its vast economic problems were a result of the war; and that executions carried out under the Shah could not be compared with executions under the Islamic republic.

The taking of American hostages, he claimed, had provided Iran with more gains than losses.

Saying his country had been "born again," President Khamenei, a 42-year-old Mullah, admitted that the Ismalic society envisioned by Ayatollah Khomeini and his followers did not yet exist.

Ayatollah Khomeini has cancelled all his appointments for the next two weeks, Tehran radio reported. — AP.

Cairo softens Moscow line

Cairo. — Egypt is prepared to restore ambassador-level relations with Moscow provided the Kremlin promises that its envoys will not violate diplomatic norms, Mr Kamal Hassan Ali, the Foreign Minister, said.

Last September, a month before his assassination, President Anwar Sadat expelled the Soviet ambassador, six Soviet diplomats and the last 1,000 Soviet experts in Egypt, accusing Moscow of plotting against him.

Lebanon bomb kills four

Beirut. — A car bomb exploded outside a Palestinian refugee camp in Sidon, south Lebanon, killing at least four people and wounding 15, Lebanese newspapers said.

The dead included a Palestinian bomb-disposal expert who was working on the device when it exploded. He had pushed the car containing the bomb away from the camp and warned people to keep clear.

Obote invites exiles home



President Milton Obote of Uganda, who has appealed to Ugandans in exile — especially the thousands who fled into neighbouring Zaire and the southern Sudan — to return home. He assured tribal elders that the exiles could return without fear of attacks from other tribes.

Ex-minister held in Bangladesh

Dacca. — Police have arrested Mr Abul Kashem, the former Bangladesh Youth Development Minister, who was among ministers dropped from the Cabinet on Thursday.

He is accused of sheltering a man wanted for killing at least seven people. The suspect was arrested by detectives who circled the former minister's house for four hours before he surrendered.

Nato to test air and land forces

Brussels. — Eight Nato nations are to stage month-long exercises in Norway to test a mobile land and air force, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe said.

The exercise will involve some 14,000 troops from February 24 to March 24. Canada, the United States, West Germany, Norway, Britain, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Italy will take part.

Missionary shot

Washington. — Brother James Arnold Miller of the La Salle Order, an American Roman Catholic missionary, has been shot dead in Guatemala, the State Department said. The motive was not yet known.

Korea war games

Seoul. — The United States and South Korea have begun a joint military exercise involving 157,500 troops.

CORRECTION

A report on December 29 stated that 1.5 million communists had recently been released from prison in Inodnesia. The correct figure is nearer 100,000.

Pope pleads for Muslim links

From Godfrey Morrison
Lagos, Feb 14

The Pope today asked for greater cooperation between muslims and Christians after an estimated 500,000 people turned out to greet him in Kaduna in the heart of Nigeria's predominantly muslim north.

On the third day of his African pilgrimage at an open air Mass. Sung in Hausa and punctuated by African drumming instead of the more familiar ringing of bells. The Pope ordained 90 Nigerian priests from all parts of this huge nation of 93 million people.

It is only nine months since the attempt on his life but despite a punishing schedule and temperatures in the nineties the Pope appears relaxed and speaks with that firm and deep voice which has become so familiar around the world.

At the three Masses since he arrived here on Friday the Pope has spoken in English, lingua franca of this ethnically diverse nation. Today's Mass at Kaduna was briefly interrupted by loud cheering and applause when the Pope ended his sermon with the Hausa words: "Na gode Allah" (Thanks be to God).

During the offertory the Nigerian faithful brought to the altar yams, rolls of brightly coloured African cloth, fruits, and pots of honey, but despite the exotic surroundings the fate of his fellow Poles is probably never far from the Pope's thoughts. Among the banners welcoming him at Kaduna were some that read simply "solidarnosc" and on Tuesday he is due to meet members of the Polish community here in Lagos.

Yesterday he faced the biggest crowds of his visit when he went to Enugu and Onitsha in eastern Nigeria, home of the Ibo people and of about three-quarters of the country's five million Roman Catholics.

Members of the papal entourage estimated that almost a million people gathered to see the Pope when he celebrated Mass at a huge open space of more than a square mile in area, which had been bulldozed out of the virgin bush a few days earlier.

A dominant theme of the Pope's sermons and speeches has been similar to that of his first African visit two years ago. He is telling the Africans, in effect: "Be yourselves, but..."

When he met President Shehu Shagari and other Nigerian leaders he told them that "it is my conviction that all Africa, when allowed to take charge of its own affairs, without being subjected to interference and pressure from any outside powers or groups, will not only astound the rest of the world by its achievements, but will be able to share its wisdom, its sense of life, its reverence for god with other continents and nations..."



Branches of Christianity: Young people of Onitsha making sure of a good vantage point during the Pope's visit.



Similarly in Onitsha he went out of his way to praise the importance which Africans accord to their families. "You have strong family ties. Children are regarded as a blessing and are desired as the crown of marriage. The extended family system provides a loving human environment for the care of orphans. The old and the poor". He then went on to condemn polygamy, divorce, contraception and abortion.

Addressing young people the Pope asked them to identify the ills of Nigerian society and, without mincing words, he said these included "bribery, corruption, the embezzlement of public or company funds, extravagant and unproductive spending, neglect of the poor and friendless, the parade of wealth, nepotism, tribalism, political antagonism, denial of the rights of the poor, abortion, contraception, and other evils which ravage other countries".

When he spoke to Muslim religious leaders today the Pope said he had come to Nigeria to visit his fellow Catholics "but my journey would be incomplete without this meeting."

He said there were several areas where there could be greater cooperation between Christians and Muslims, including the promotion of "more honesty and discipline in private and public life, greater courage and wisdom in politics, the elimination of political antagonisms, and the removal of discrimination because of a person's race, colour, ethnic origin, religion or sex".

Congress to query policy on Salvador

From Nicholas Hirst
Washington, Feb 14

Sharp questioning is expected as Congress returns this week on exactly what President Reagan's commitments are in Central America, after the recall this weekend of a high ranking American officer from El Salvador.

In an incident that is causing further problems for the Administration's plans to counter left-wing influence in the region, Lieutenant-Colonel Harry Melander is to return to the United States this week. He was filmed by American television carrying an M16 automatic rifle with a group of four other American soldiers in El Slavador, in a breach of State Department regulations.

The five were helping in the rebuilding of a bridge blown up by guerrillas. The other soldiers have been reprimanded. State Department regulations for United States troops who are in El Salvador to train indigenous soldiers forbid the carrying of rifles or entry into likely combat zones.

The incident has come at an extremely embarrassing time for the Reagan Administration, which is expected to ask Congress in the near future for substantially increased economic and military aid throughout Cental America.

A report in *The Washington Post* today is likely to increase alarm among Congressmen over exactly what the Administration intends to do to counter what it sees as the active Cuban support of revolutionary forces in the area.

The report said that the Central Intelligence Agency had proposed a $19m (about £10.3m) plan to build a broad political opposition to the left-wing Sandinista regime in Nicaragua and to form action teams for paramilitary political and intelligence gathering activities in Nicaragua and other Central American countries.

Mainly non-Americans would be used to carry out the proposals but Americans might possibly be involved with unspecified Cuban targets. It could not be learnt, the paper said, whether the plan had been approved.

Its front page report, however, said that President Reagan had authorized the encouragement of political and paramilitary operations by other Central and South American govenments against the Cuban presence in Nicaragua.

Administration officials see Nicaragua as a potential armed camp, supported by Cuba, to mount insurrection in Central America and assist the guerrillas in El Salvador.

Not all Congressmen, however, see the conflict in El Salvador in the same stark terms of an East-West struggle as does the Administration and these are concerned that the United States might be supporting an unacceptable regime.

Senator Patrick Leahy, who is in El Salvador on a fact finding mission with Senator Claiborne Pell, of the Senate foreign relations committee, said at a news conferance yesterday that their meeting on human rights with General José Guillermo Garcia, the Salvadorean Defence Minister had gone badly.

□ San Salvador: Five Salvadorean soldiers have been committed for trial for the rape and murder of three American nuns and a lay worker, President José Napoleon Duarte said. He also said that a sixth soldier had been freed for lack of evidence.

□ Peking: United States aid to El Salvador simply aggravates turbulence in the region and the Soviet Union is taking advantage of this to infiltrate Central America and the Caribbean, an official Chinese magazine, *Beijing Review*, said here today. —Reuter.

President's popularity

Why Reagan is out of touch with voters

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Feb 14

President Reagan, who likes to project himself as embodying the hopes and concerns of ordinary Americans, is getting increasingly out of touch with the people who sent him to the White House a year ago.

His tour of three Mid-Western states last week glaringly demonstrated how isolated he has become. There were no walkabouts or shaking the hands of well-wishers. He was not even available for informal chats with local party dignitaries, except brief meetings with state Governers and Republican Senators.

Increasingly, the President is a leader who is seen only on television, a medium which he handles brilliantly, but which ultimately makes him appear detached, and aloof and apparently unaware of the everyday problems of Americans battling with growing unemployment and reduced social spending.

Just how out of touch the President has become was evident during his visit to Des Moines, the state capital of Iowa.

Most of Iowa's 2.5 million inhabitants are involved in farming or activities associated with agriculture. The main concerns of farmers at present are low market prices, high interest rates and the threat of a Soviet grain embargo.

Yet in his 20-minute speech to the state legislature the President did not mention farming once, and instead dealt only with the 1983 budget and his plans for a "new federalism". It was as though Mrs Thatcher had gone to Coventry and made no reference to the car industry.

Similarly, in Indiana, a state where 12 per cent of the population is out of work, he made only a passing reference to unemployment. Yet recent polls have shown that unemployment is the issue which is causing most concern.

Security, and the need to protect the President from another assassination attempt, is partly responsible for Mr Reagan's absence from public view. Since the attempt on his life last March, the secret service is no longer prepared to let him mingle with the crowds, as President Carter used to do.

Instead the President is whisked from airport to State Capitol to hotel in a bullet-proof car, moving so fast that a local newspaper remarked: "He might have been riding inside a speeding thermos flask". It was doubtful whether he could tell if the crowds along the route were cheering him or protesting against his budget cuts.

In fact, no one came to cheer him during last week's trip, but there were plenty of people who braved sub-zero temperatures to chant "Jobs, jobs, jobs" or "Bread not bombs".

The need to protect the President does not, however, explain why he also has virtually no contact with local Republican Party officials.

In Des Moines, for example, apart from a set-piece speech, he made only a brief appearance before 40 local businessmen, who paid $1,000 a head to have a breakfast of quiche lorraine and strawberries with President.

Even senior members of the President's staff seem to be growing increasingly aloof. Mr James Baker, the White House chief of staff, and his deputy, Mr Michael Deaver, dined alone when they were in Des Moines, even though Mr Robert Ray, the state Governor, and the Republican Senator, Mr Charles Grassley, were in the city at the time.

If the President had met Republican supporters during his tour, he would have heard complaints similar to those being shouted by the demonstrators who lined the route in Minneapolis, Des Moines and Indianapolis.

"A lot of women are moving away from the Republican Party", commented Mrs Sue Mullins, a Republican member of the Iowa State Legislature. Women, she said, were particularly critical of the disparity between defence spending and social welfare programmes.

Aggett funeral becomes anti-government protest

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Feb 14

Five thousand mourners, both black and white, surged through the streets of central Johannesburg at the weekend shouting black power slogans and waving the black, green and gold banner of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) after the funeral of Dr Neil Aggett, the young white trade union leader found hanged in his prison cell here on February 5.

The funeral in St Mary's Anglican Cathedral, and the slow seven-mile procession to the cemetery where Dr Aggett was buried in a simple pine-wood coffin made by his friends, rapidly assumed a political character. It developed into the biggest non-violent, anti-government demonstration in many years.

By South African standards, the police, though present in large numbers, acted with sensible restraint. There was only one potentially ugly moment when camouflaged riot police armed with sjamboks rushed out of a side street and blocked the path of the 5,000 marchers, who sat in the road. After a few tense minutes the procession was allowed to continue.

Security police with cameras, perched in trees and at the windows of blocks of flats along the route and mingling with the graveside crowd made a filmed record of the funeral procession. It will be surprising if some of this material is not used in the trial of the trade unionists and others within the next few months.

Dr Aggett was one of scores of trade union and student activists, both black and white, rounded up by police last October and November and held without trial under the country's rigorous security laws. The new generation of independent trade unions are widely seen in official circles as fronts for the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party, both of which are prohibited organizations.

Up to 2,000 mourners packed into the cathedral yesterday morning, in stifling heat and several thousand more lined the streets outside. For an hour before the service began the mainly black congregation sang freedom songs including "Go well, Neil Aggett", written by his union colleagues for the occasion.

There was also repeated singing of the black nationalist anthem "Nkosi Sikelel' i Afrika" (God Bless Africa), accompanied by the chanting of slogans and the raising of clenched fists.

Dr Aggett's parents and family, though moved by the show of support for their dead son, were clearly distressed by some of these manifestations.

The funeral service was conducted jointly by the white Anglican bishop and the black Anglican dean of Johannesburg, underlining the racial ecumenism of the occasion.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, the general secretary of the multi-racial South African Council of churches and an outspoken critic of apatheid, led the prayers.

In his sermon, the Dean, the Rev Simeon Nkoane, said "It is my hope that many South Africans will today make a decision that will change the kind of life we live in this country".

There were bursts of applause for a powerful oration from Mr Jan Theron, the white national secretary of the non-racial but overwhelmingly black African food and canning workers' union, of which Dr Aggett was the Transvaal secretary. The work of building Democratic non-racial unions must go on, he said.

Wearing a white tee-shirt emblazoned with a clenched fist, Mr Theron said that Dr Aggett had been killed for his ideals. At the same time as the government was saying it wanted to recognize black trade unions, it was preparing a show trial against them.

"It was because Neil could not and would not play a part in this trial that he is dead", Mr Theron declared.

Aircrew in scuffle on flight deck

Tokyo, Feb 14. — The co-pilot of a Japan Airlines DC8 that crashed into Tokyo Bay last Tuesday scuffled with the pilot after he apparently reversed the thrust of the aircraft's engines while it was still in flight, causing the aircraft to stall, police investigations showed today.

Captain Seiji Katagiri, aged 35, who was in charge at the time of the crash, was seriously injured in the accident along with the co-pilot, Mr Yoshifumi Ishikawa, aged 33, and Mr Yoshimi Ozaki, the 43-year-old flight engineer.

The police said that they had learnt that the co-pilot and flight engineer had tried to intervene with the captain just before impact. But despite efforts by the co-pilot the captain reportedly pushed the throttle lever forward — which is against normal procedure — while trying to land at the airport.



Captain Katagiri shortly after the crash

Mr Ishikawa was said to have told the police that he had scuffled unsuccessfully with the captain in an effort to get the aircraft up again. *Air safety investigators* said that the fourth engine, on the right wing, was in reverse thrust when the DC8 crashed, knocking down several approach lights and plunging into the bay nearly 1,000ft short of the runway. Twenty-four peopl died and 150 were injured, 78 seriously.

Captain Katagiri, who took command of a DC8 on *December 18, 1979*, had a month's leave from November, 1980, because of a psychosomatic disorder. The police said that he had suffered hallucinations since the summer of 1980.—AFP.

'Climate of hysteria' in Lisbon

Lisbon, Feb 14. — Communists today accused the right-wing Portuguese Government of creating a climate of hysteria by trying to link their pro-Soviet party with a plot to subvert democracy.

In a television broadcast last night, Senhor Angelo Correia, the Interior Minister, said the Government had foiled an attempt to overthrow democracy after a series of "subversive actions" during the Communist-led one-day strike on Friday. Government statements also announced the discovery of a car-load of arms and the arrest of a small group of armed men in Lisbon.

In its leader column the Communist daily *O Diario* said the Government had done its utmost to create an atmosphere of violence and insecurity in the country.

Throughout the build up to Friday's stoppage, billed by the Communist-backed CGTP-IN union as Portugal's first general strike, the Government pursued a vigouous campaign to discredit the Communists, warning the country of the threat they posed to democracy.

It also hinted that it planned further cuts in the number of Soviet representatives in Lisbon, after the expulsion of two diplomats last month. — Reuter.

Lévesque routs radicals

From John Best
Ottawa, Feb 14

Mr René Lévesque, the premier of Quebec, recaptured full control of the Parti Quebécois policy-making machinery yesterday. A show of hands at a party convention in Montreal overwhelmingly endorsed his position that an independent Quebec should maintain an economic association with the rest of Canada.

The 2,200 delegates also ratified Mr Lévesque's stand that independence cannot be achieved without the support of a majority of the French-speaking province's voters. The results represented a triumph for Mr Lévesque, leader of the separatist party.

They came after a postal referendum in which the Premier sought to isolate radicals who had seized control of party convention in December and pushed through resolutions demanding a bolder approach to sovereignty and withdrawal of the offer of economic association. Ninety-five per cent of the referendum vote favoured Mr Lévesque.

The premier reassured this weekend's convention that the PQ will have the right to declare independence unilaterally if it wins the next provincial election — not expected until 1985 — with more than 50 per cent of the vote.

Israel faces strike on Golan

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Feb 14

Pro-Syrian Druze stepped up their anti-Israeli civil disobedience campaign on the Golan Heights today with a general strike protesting at the weekend arrest of four local leaders suspected of incitement to revolt.

Schools and businesses in the four Druze villages on the blizzard-swept heights remained shut this morning, and workers employed in Israeli enterprises for the most part stayed at home despite warnings that they might lose their jobs.

Substantial Israeli forces, including units of the tough frontier police, made up largely of Israeli co-religionists of the Golan Druze, were posted in the villages but there were no disturbances. The Druze are an Arabic speaking national-religious minority, an offshoot of Islam.

Frontier policemen were conspicuous today protecting the homes of local Druze who have been outspokenly pro-Israel and have been ostracized by the community.

The strike call was issued yesterday after religious and lay leaders met to discuss the arrests, ordered by Mr Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Defence Minister.

The detainees, who were ordered to be held for three months without trial, include Shaikh Kamal Kanj abu Salah, a septuagenarian former deputy of the Syrian Parliament convicted by the *Israelis in 1972* as a *Syrian* spy but pardoned the next year in a prisoners' exchange. The others are his cousin, Soleiman abu Salah, Suleiman's son Kanj and Mahmoud Safadi.

The Druze campaign against Israel has included a social and religious boycott of those who had taken out Israeli identity papers. Inhabitants were also urged to refuse to pay Israeli taxes and to decline Israeli health benefits and social security payments.

Last week residents in the village of Ein Kanya were said to have chased away surveyors attempting to measure their homes for tax assessment.

□ Jerusalem: A government spokesman said after a Cabinet meeting today that Israel would not remain idle in the face of what it sees as a threat to its superiority in the Middle East balance of power.

Relations with Washington were discussed in detail by the Cabinet after American officials travelling in the Middle East this week with Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, said Washington would seriously consider supplying Jordan with F16 military jets and Hawk surface-to-air missiles.

The Israeli spokesman said today that if such a deal went through "it would bring a new and most dangerous element into the Middle East."

Deng's flowery status

From David Bonavia, Peking, Feb 14

Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping, *whose whereabouts and* political status are the topic of considerable controversy just now, has sent a wreath for the funeral of Mr Wang Guanlan, a relatively obscure veteran of the revolutionary struggle.

Despite a recent official statement that Mr Deng had retired to the "second rank" of the Communist Party Leadership, he was listed as second in the list of public figures sending wreaths, after Marshal Ye Jianying, the senior Vice-Chairman and China's closest equivalent to a head of state.

Mr Hu Yaobang, the Communist Party Chairman, and Mr Zhao Ziyang, he *Prime* Minister, were among those attending the funeral, named on a second list. Comparison of the relative importance of the leaders mentioned on each list suggests no firm conclusions about their present status.

Mr Deng, who has not been seen in public for over a month, last week sent a message of encouragement to an Army conference on forestry work, a seemingly trivial occasion. Observers believe he may be emphasizing the fact that he is still in office.

Chirac mobilizes Gaullists

French opposition bares teeth

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Feb 14

As discontent spreads among the farmers, white collar workers and the trade unions, the French opposition is beginning to show its teeth — so much so that the Socialists are complaining of its aggressiveness and intolerance.

The coalition Government is now beginning to worry about the opposition's capacity to delay or obstruct the progress of Socialism.

M Jacques Chirac is mobilizing his Gaullist troops, now tightly under his control, to oppose the Government on all fronts. Gone are the days when President Mitterrand's foreign policy *almost found favour in his* eyes. M Giscard d'Estaing and M Raymond Barre are slowly emerging from the wings, as they did last week, to try to prevent him from comandeering the centre of the stage.

The opposition's problem however, is not one of conviction of combativeness — its "young Turks" effectively demonstrated both during recent parliamentary battles — but one of unity and of leadership.

M Chirac is making good his party's claim at its Toulouse congress last month to be the spearhead of the opposition forces as well as his own claim, though muted (in order not to frighten away liberals and centrists), that he is their natural leader.

A poll in the latest issue of the economic magazine *La Vie Francaise* shows that 47 per cent regard him as best placed to further the union of the opposition, as against only 20 per cent for M Giscard d'Estaing.

M Chirac's lead is also confirmed by other polls. There appears to be a craving for unity, if not for actual union, among the rank and file of opposition supporters and one thing they will not tolerate is a revival of the fratricidal conflict between M Chirac and M Giscard d'Estaing. Both leaders know it and so do all the parties which form the present opposition.

But M Chirac has a distinct edge on his rivals. He is still relatively young, his reputation is untarnished by defeat; he enjoys an incomparable political base in the Paris City council and party with a powerful local organization, which he sees as the future catalyst of all opposition forces.

Against this the former President suffers the blemish which attaches to a loser, and from the disparate nature of the coalition of Gisgardians and centrists, whose strongest cement was the presidency.

He is still convinced that the future lies with the liberal sector.

M Giscard d'Estaing gave two interviews last week which made plain his aims and he will openly persue them in the autumn when he presides at a meeting of Gisgardian clubs. But M Jean Lecanuet, the UDF chairman said recently that if the Gaullists had an uncontested leader, the UDF had several of presidential calibre and that the choice of one would not arise until two years before the presidential elections of 1988. Which means that M Giscard d'Estaing is not the inevitable candidate.

There is a third potential opposition leader, in the shape of M Raymond Barre. The former Prime Minister is slowly, deliberately, discreetly and in his own inimitable style, reminding his fellow countrymen of his existence against the day, when, shaken out of their present socialist illusion, they will revert to the economic common sense for which he stands.

Books: **Bryan Appleyard** investigates the sales slump and today's comeback

Reading between the lines

The publishing industry is just emerging from two terrible years. Any hopes that the book trade was proof against recession vanished in autumn 1980 when the market began to crumble. It now looks as if consumer spending on books has fallen by as much as 10 per cent since then. The profitability of the Charter group of booksellers, the most comprehensive stockholding shops, led by Blackwell's of Oxford and Heffers of Cambridge, has dropped to below 2 per cent. For a fragmented and diffuse industry accustomed to reasonably steady growth it was a bloody experience. As library buying was cut back and challenges emerged from photocopying and book piracy, the industry retrenched by cutting capacity. New titles have dropped from the record 48,000 in 1980 to an expected 38,000 this year, and company profitability is recovering.

It is against this improved but still battered background that the Book Marketing Council today launches its *Best of British Authors*, a promotion lasting two weeks which is intended to expand the serious literature market. It is a brave, but fairly amateur and massively underfunded, attempt which has finally got off the ground, having first encountered scepticism, derision, and complacency. Apart from publishers' unhappy belief that literature, especially in hardback, was an interest confined to academics and a tiny scattering of wild-eyed entusiasts, there was also the BMC's rather patchy record and an unwillingness by the companies to cooperate with each other at all.

But cooperate they finally did, and now W. H. Smith is to lead the way in displaying the books and photographs of 20 authors from Rosemary Sutcliff to Anthony Burgess and from John Betjeman to John Fowles in their High Street windows. Whether this amounts to anything more than a bright but ephemeral marketing idea remains to be seen but it is clear that its inspiration — a determination to work on the marketing end of the publishing equation — is singularly topical in view of an impending and significant intensification of competition in the book retail trade.

At the centre of these changes is the hallowed Net Book Agreement which is the trade's name for retail price maintenance. After a court case almost 20 years ago in which the wisdom that "books are different" was enshrined in case history, retail prices have been standardized. This has protected small booksellers from the kind of price competition which has destroyed, for example, small grocers faced with the growth of supermarkets. It has also allowed them to finance large and varied stocks of slow-selling titles, a dispensation which for many people represents a prerequisite of civilized life.

But, although publicly they may say otherwise, it is difficult to find anybody in publishing who believes that the NBA will survive another five years. Politically and legally the climate has changed since the last test case and the industry is waiting for somebody to take the issue through the courts again. Virgin Books, an offshoot of Virgin Records which has so far published books to do with rock and show business, toyed with the idea in 1980, dreaming of following up its parent company's success in 1970 when records were freed from controlled prices. But it is too small a company to take on the whole business. Recent advertisements in the trade press from Tesco for a head book-buyer have inspired nervous rumours that the challenge would come from that direction. In fact the post appears to be the result of a decision to follow Marks and Spencer into "own-label" books, though industry sources point out that this does not quite square with the wording of the new title.

If Tesco were to make such a move successfully, the danger for the trade would be the loss of bread and butter business, because of discounts they could never hope to match. By itself a move to follow M & S into practical, household books would be relatively unimportant, but a decision to push popular fiction could result in sales of, for example, Harold Robbins being stolen by the supermarket from the bookshop. Popular fiction shades imperceptibly up-market from Mills and Boon romances via Robbins and up through historical romances, which definitely are a useful profit earner—for bookshops. Such competition from national store groups could drive the small independents into fewer and more specialised shops. For, under the current controlled price system, although it would be unfair to say that Robbins subsidizes Vladimir Nabokov, it is evidently true that Robbins subsidizes the *availability* of Nabokov.

But, for a nationally represented and highly efficient retailer like W. H. Smith, books under the current system are a Good Thing. Its diversifications have met with uneven success so now it is returning to the book fold with a 60 per cent increase in its promotional budget to £580,000 and to a study of the position of books in its stores — in other words halting the drift of floorspace to calculators and toys. In addition of course NBA means good profit margins which Smith appears determined to seize, particularly since the mark-up on other items has been eroded by recession and tighter market conditions.

All of this produces a divided picture. The publishers have stabilized themselves, albeit at a lower level of business, and export markets are recovering thanks to a weaker pound and the apparent demoralization of the major English language competitor, the American industry. But the retailers still face major uncertainties, and finally it is their ability to reserve a reasonable spread of well-stocked bookshops which will maintain literature as the only serious art apart from cinema to be almost entirely independent of public subsidy.

Television

Flight of fantasy

They have rumbled the condor, and, by appearing to float past its upper slopes with consummate ease, have cut Aconcagua (22,834ft) down to the size of Helvellyn or Box Hill. The condor is a huge, black and rather dumb bird with superb aerodynamics but a purpose otherwise largely symbolic and nothing to distinguish it on the ground save the enormous span of its wings — in fact, a disadvantage. Even the daffy guanaco can shoo it away and I would back a match-fit vulture against a condor, out of its natural element, any day. Retired condors are saddest of all: there used to be a pair at the East Berlin Zoo in a cage no larger than the average front room.

The Flight of the Condor (BBC 2) tames four thousand miles of wild and largely mountainous territory from Colombia to Cape Horn partly with the aid of a commentary diminishing and inconsequential and partly by deciding to show so much from, as it were, the giant bird's point of view. We learnt from Michael Andrews that "despite their apparent dignity, penguins can be careless", a remark posing a link between circumspection and nobility of bearing which may never have been posed before. This was a fearfully difficult and exciting series to film, a grand dream of Mr Andrews brought to fulfilment, so why make it look so easy?

There were, of course, many strange and glorious things photographed by Mr Andrews's cameramen Hugh Miles and Rodger Jackman: delicious sea-otters, dining on their backs in the waters of Tierra de Fuego, steamer ducks, unable to fly, threshing the waves with a butterfly stroke; a frog that played dead to escape from a snake; a monkey puzzle tree forest beneath a volcano, and *Munita del Monte* who turned out to be not a movie star of the Forties but a dear little rodent much relished by large and watchful owls.

There was no such taming of Spanish Civil War memories when Bill Alexander led a party of British Battalion veterans from the International Brigade back for the first time last summer, and Christopher Cook filmed the pilgrimage for **Spain: a Return to the Battlefields** (BBC 2). Chimes at midnight indeed on the windy April plains of Aragon and Castile as gentle men from Nottingham listened for the past with their eyes, spoke of the day the shrieking Moors broke through, and of the shattering silence, after weeks of ceaseless gunfire, of a cell in Saragossa. The wives kept darting off to one side to pick a herb or smell a flower, and the ashes of a comrade who had died before the trip began were scattered under an olive tree at the foot of Hill 481. Precise political allegiances were left discreetly vague and it was clear that the plain pulse of feeling aroused by the simple word "Spain" was, as Mr Cook said, still beating today.

Michael Ratcliffe

Cinema

The mirror of history

Hungarians have always lived in closer proximity to history than most peoples of Europe — and never more so than in the turbulent decades within living memory. One consequence is that the critical evaluation of history has been a dominant theme in the best work of modern Hungarian film-makers. Films like *Angi Vera* and *Mephisto*, already familiar to British audiences, have demonstrated clearly enough how searching, vital and universal their treatment of history can be. The excellent new crop of Hungarian films put on show at this year's national film festival, in the southern city of Pecs, shows the same continuing preoccupation.

Indeed, out of this year's films it is possible to reconstruct the whole sequence of Hungarian history in the years since the end of the Second World War.

The story begins with Gyula Gazdag's *The Banquet*, the record of an actual feast which reunited the surviving participants in a bizarre series of circumstances that occurred almost forty years ago. In 1945, just after the liberation, the people of two villages in south-west Hungary set up their own Soviet republic, with its own laws, administration and vigorously guarded frontiers. As the old men of the present day argue over their fading memories of what took place, the incident gradually loses its air of comic opera, suggesting rather in microcosm the whole business of social organization and subsequent social degradation.

The story is continued in Peter Bácso's *The Day Before Yesterday*, which begins in 1947, with the euphoria of a group of young people who are caught up in the new communist organization and the formation of the so-called people's colleges. The zeal of the Forties disintegrates into the terror of the Fifties, and the trial of Laszlo Rajk has repercussions on the youngsters, turning the comrades into repressors and victims. Bacso's own screenplay is at times too glib in its dramatic resolutions, but the film evokes with frightening reality both the horror of the times and the enthusiasm that was often rather inhuman than superhuman.

Zoltán Fábri's *Requiem*, which is the Hungarian entry in this week's Berlin Festival, reconstructs the career of a man who achieved political prominence in the years between 1945 and 1949, only to die in a political prison in 1950. The events are somewhat artificially constructed through an encounter between a mysterious young man, who turns out to have been a fellow-prisoner, and the widow of the dead man.

Following his *Angi Vera* Pal Gabor also returns to the Fifties. In *Wasted Lives*, he shows how personal relationships — a love affair between a politically "difficult" widower and the textile worker who moves in to look after his children — are vulnerable to the political caprices that characterized the years immediately following Stalin's death in 1953.

Péter Gothár's *Time Stands Still* carries the record forward to the years between 1956 and 1967. Gothár, who comes from the theatre, has revealed himself with this film and his first feature, *A Priceless Day*, as one of the most brilliant talents to have emerged in East European cinema in some years. His films combine constant visual surprise with quick-fire humour and satire, rich allusion, human and social perception and a delight in the quirks of individual character.

Though much of the specifically Hungarian reference of *Time Stands Still* must be lost on foreign audiences, there is still a great deal to admire and enjoy. The film starts with the uprising of 1956, during which the father of two young boys, who are the heroes of the film, makes a getaway to the West. The children are left behind with their mother, suffering political stigma and discrimination.

Time goes on. Politics as usual change direction. The boys grow up, they taste their first Coca-Cola, a forbidden fruit so long associated with the sin and decadence of the West that they experience an auto-suggestive, delirious high from it. A subsequent plan to emigrate to the American never-never gets no further than a smashed-up stolen car on Lake Balaton. Years on, with the comedies, frustrations and political indoctrinations of schooldays behind them, we see them settled, more or less, into the world of the late Sixties.

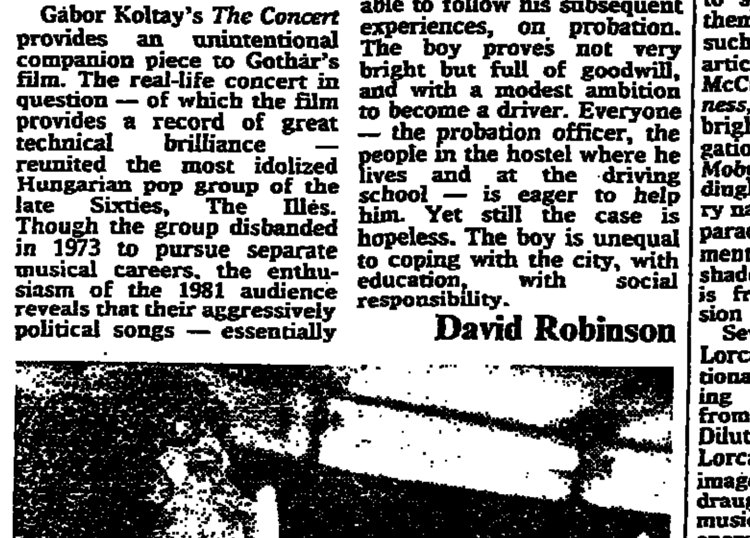
Gábor Koltay's *The Concert* provides an unintentional companion piece to Gothár's film. The real-life concert in question — of which the film provides a record of great technical brilliance — reunited the most idolized Hungarian pop group of the late Sixties, The Illés. Though the group disbanded in 1973 to pursue separate musical careers, the enthusiasm of the 1981 audience reveals that their aggressively political songs — essentially rooted in a passionate and romantic pacifism and nationalism — can still capture the imagination of a generation that has grown up since the The Illés' own contemporaries, the same young people as those of Gothár's film.

The Illés are now something of a national institution, though they were not always as favoured by the establishment as by the fans. The film puts on record some of their troubles, including a one-year ban following their 1970 British tour. At least one of the songs performed in the film has still never been recorded. The words of "The Rose" — "If I were a road I would not let tanks roll over me . . . If I were a flag I would not be blown by other nations' winds" — are evidently still considered less than desirable for the political well-being of the young.

Pál Schiffer's *cinema verité* film *The Protégé* deals frankly and humanely with the situation of some of the inevitable victims of the rapid social changes Hungary has experienced, allied to the economic difficulties shared with the rest of the world, east and west. Twelve years ago Schiffer made a documentary, *The Black Train*, about peasants obliged to seek a livelihood by commuting to Budapest. Returning to find what had become of them in the years between, he followed up the case of one small boy he had interviewed on film, the child of a depressed home and drunken father.

He found the boy just out of reform school, and was able to follow his subsequent experiences, on probation. The boy proves not very bright but full of goodwill, and with a modest ambition to become a driver. Everyone — the probation officer, the people in the hostel where he lives and at the driving school — is eager to help him. Yet still the case is hopeless. The boy is unequal to coping with the city, with education, with social responsibility.

David Robinson



"The Concert": romantic nationalism

Concerts

Bach Choir/Willcocks

Festival Hall

Belshazzar's Feast will be much performed in this year of Sir William Walton's eightieth birthday. The Bach Choir, in its celebratory concert on Saturday, also reminded us of two other major choral works by Walton, the *Coronation Te Deum*, and the Huddersfield *Gloria*. Since the Philharmonia Orchestra was in attendance, Sir David Willcocks gave his choir a rest while he conducted Walton's splendid Hindemith Variations.

Walton's *Te Deum*, for the Queen's coronation, would qualify as an extremely occasional piece, for purposes of listening, if it were not for the sparkling harp contribution to "The Virgin's womb" and the magical texture of orchestral flood under active choir at "To thee Cherubim". The musical invention elsewhere goes back, almost too directly, to Walton's choirboy youth and the repertory he sang then.

The *Gloria* of 1961 is a much more vital affair, alive all the time with Waltonian catchphrases, always twisted so as to catch another phrase. There are choral fireworks galore, and the Bach Choir seemed to enjoy, and gain prowess, in igniting them.

William Kendall had difficulty in turning his tenor cadenza, at "Miserere", into the brilliant skyrocket intended. But the trio with chorus, at "Qui tollis", went well, with Catherine Wyn-Rogers an alto of almost Spanish tonal hardness and Willard White firmly pointing the bass line.

Belshazzar's Feast suffered from minimal extra brass bands, cramped among the chorus, and sopranos unconfident above the stave. It was a rousing account, even so. Willard White brought cruel disdain to his later solos (in the first he had intonation problems), and Sir David turned wild and savage, not a common role for him, in driving his forces to hymn baleful Babylon and ecstatic Judea. For a contemporary of his it was a welcome sign that we are not yet resigned to facing senior citizenship.

William Mann

London Chorale

Queen Elizabeth Hall

In nearly 20 years of existence, the London Chorale has given first performances of much contemporary choral music, has travelled widely and won many prizes in international competitions. Few of its merits, however, and little of any distinctive character could be discerned on Saturday night. David Coleman conducted four twentieth-century works whose aridity of imagination and invention seemed to anaesthetise the very physical processes of their performers.

It is difficult to imagine how, with the best will in the world, any group of singers can be stimulated to respond to settings of words which themselves have met with such shallow and blandly articulated responses. John McCabe's *Aspect of Whiteness*, in setting Melville's brightly-coloured investigation of the subject from *Moby Dick* as a long, ploddingly homophonic incantatory narrative, bleeds the tough paradoxes, the rolling arguments of its prose to a whiter shade of pale. Apprehension is frozen, even comprehension dulled.

Seven Spanish poems of Lorca received more affectionate if little more penetrating or illuminating setting from Castelnuovo-Tedesco. Diluting the sharp potency of Lorca's brightly captured images to an unintoxicating draught of Spanish vino, the music, with its guitar part energetically played by Gilbert Biberian, at least provided the chance for singing of livelier physicality than the choir on this occasion seemed either moved or able to provide.

Their often sluggish entries and ill-defined line did little either to promote the cause of Iain Hamilton's dreary, awkwardly constructed Mass in A, the smudged fingerprints of tradition unassimilated into any distinctive voice of its own. It made the early, tentative Stockhausen Verlaine settings of *Chöre für Doris*, with which the concert had begun, seem in retrospect joyful, artful miniatures, favouring the taste of words and voice.

Hilary Finch

Karoly Botvay

Purcell Room

I wonder if there is any instrument more difficult to make work alone than the cello, any more demanding of the player's personality if its deep voice is to be brought up into expressiveness. A violinist can be reticent to the point of anonymity, but not a solo cellist, and certainly the great cellists of our age have been people who project musical characters larger than life: Rostropovich, Casals, Tortelier, du Pré, Palm.

Karoly Botvay, who embarked on Friday on a series of three weekly recitals covering the Bach suites, cannot be blamed that he is not a performer of that kind, for it is a matter of personality. Nor was his playing here without distinction; he has a fine command of the larger musical span, a tone of engaging seriousness, and a manner of deference to the music, a willingness to listen to what the notation may be saying.

Those, however, are the qualities of the excellent chamber musician Mr Botvay is, a member of the Bartok Quartet for many years in his native Hungary, and now in England a valued partner in newer ensembles. They are not the qualities of an outstanding soloist and, coupled no doubt with the choice of the two minor-key suites for this opening recital, they gave the evening an unnecessarily dour aura. Mr Botvay was all sarabande; one wanted also some minuet elegance, some prelude eccentricity, above all some gigue exuberance.

Not surprisingly, he fared better in a work where variety of character was written in: Attila Bozay's *Formazioni*. This set of 10 miniatures included everything from snap pizzicatos to exasperating juggling with a small motif to a little folk song over a detuned C-string drone. And, though I dare say they are a great deal more fun to play than to listen to, they were still vastly more enjoyable than the other Hungarian work on the programme, Kodaly's *Capriccio*.

Paul Griffiths

ECO/Casadesus

Festival Hall

The English Chamber Orchestra's natural habitat on South Bank is the Queen Elizabeth Hall. Did they move, for Friday night's concert, to the big hall to give Jessye Norman's spacious soprano room to expand, or expect perhaps that her fame and popularity would draw a full house?

The bold move did not succeed; it was sad to see so many empty seats, and to hear that every item in a delightful programme would have sounded more apt in the QEH. Certainly, Arnold Schoenberg took pains to reduce the instrumentation of the wood-dove's lament, from his monumental *Gurrelieder*, so that it might be performable in a hall of modest size.

On the platform of the RFH, the handful of players looked out of place, the woodwind played rather too loud for the good of the music — although Miss Norman surmounted their pungent blasts without needing to raise her voice.

Indeed she sang the lament with a hieratic, subdued solemnity that was greatly moving, weighing words and tone in scrupulous measure at the narration of Tove's funeral, fining her noble tone down to a thread, eventually opening up for the last appearance of the music's refrain, which tells us that dead Tove and the singing dove are one and the same.

To the first half of the concert, devoted to Haydn (250 this year), she contributed the big *Scena di Berenice*, an impassioned concert piece that should by now be familiar, at least on record, to every Haydn devotee. She sang it with generous eloquence, and a fine cantabile, strongly accompanied. Miss Norman may have been disappointed by the size of the audience but not I hope, by the warmth of our applause, orchestra and conductor included.

The conductor was Jean-Claude Casadesus from the Lille Philharmonic in France. He took a somewhat stiff view of Haydn's Hen Symphony, elegant and tidy, seldom intent on its sensibility. He ended boisterously with Bizet's C major Symphony, a dazzling, precocious little masterpiece which sounded heavier, less vivacious than it should.

William Mann

Theatre

The Forest

Aldwych

Alexander Ostrovsky waited a long time to meet the English theatre. His play *The Forest* had been a Russian staple since it first appeared in 1870. Perhaps 1981 was the first year in which Alan Howard was free, and however adept Adrian Noble has been in staging the play, and however magnificently Bob Crowley has designed the production, first in Stratford's Other Place, then in the Warehouse and most magically in the Aldwych, it is Mr Howard's total theatricality that makes Ostrovsky breathe and live.

In 1982 it becomes the last production to be presented by RSC at the Aldwych Theatre and the best hope for the company's move to Barbican is that they can find the vitality with which they leave the Aldwych, and perhaps they should not leave without more plans to meet Ostrovsky.

The Forest tells a merry tale of corrupt provincial doings, with an old woman who marries a schoolboy, by which she cheats her niece and nephew out of their inheritances. Before the evening is out, the niece will try to drown herself and the wayward nephew will turn up as a wealthy retired military man. It is, of course, Mr Howard who pretends to be military while he is in fact a provincial actor, the lowest of social low.

Ostrovsky leads Mr Howard's character to nobility, and Mr Howard comes through with a performance as a tragedian of extravagant emotion, vulnerable only to the whisper of laughter. For a companion, he has the low comic actor of Richard Pasco, wonderfully vulnerable to money. As they wander through the wonderland of leaves and icons in Mr Crowley's design they confront a wicked and splendid performance from Barbara Leigh-Hunt, and a sharply opportunistic young country gentleman from Paul Whitworth. It is, although slightly slower then in the studio, a total theatrical delight.

Ned Chaillet

Dance

Swan Lake

Covent Garden

Rudolf Nureyev's return to the Royal Ballet on Saturday, after an absence of more than four years, was in *Swan Lake*: a ballet which, quite as much as the *Bayadère* that he is about to revive, shows the tremendous influence he has had on the entire classical repertory.

When, at his first Covent Garden *Swan Lake* almost 20 years ago, he introduced a solo for Siegfried in the first scene, there was a horrified outcry. Now his solo, like a new scene which he also added between Siegfried and his mother, is part of the Royal Ballet's standard production, and most other stagings in western Europe and America have adopted something similar. Nureyev's innovations have changed our ideas about how to produce the classics just as much his dancing has affected the way other dancers perform them.

Nowadays, his own choreography for that solo cannot come as easily to his muscles as two decades earlier, but he has found a clearer articulation to replace youthful pliancy and, consequently, still catches the melancholy mood and legato style in exemplary manner. Neither there nor elsewhere does he make things easy for himself.

The bravura solos in the ballroom scene are less spectacular than of old, but he still jumps higher than anyone else all evening, and still performs his *tours en l'air* in alternate directions, something the younger dancers hardly ever attempt. Young Phillip Broomhead's otherwise excellent solo in the *pas de trois* (with Fiona Chadwick also admirable and Deirdre Eyden breathtakingly good) would be improved by following Nureyev's example in that respect.

From earliest days, Nureyev was concerned as much with his partner and the total dramatic effect as with own solos, but he is a far stronger partner now than in his youth, and, although Lesley Collier is not exactly in the same rank as some of his former ballerinas, she seemed to take inspiration from the occasion, finding depth particularly in her account of Odette in the first lakeside scene. *The corps de ballet* also rose to the occasion, although some soloists were more vigorous than polished.

John Percival

The Times Profile: The new political think tanks

Now is the time for all intellectuals to come to the aid of their party

● *The last four months have seen the birth of two new political think tanks and two new political journals. The Tawney Society serves the SDP, the Socialist Society, the Bennite left. The magazines* New Socialist *and the* Journal of Economic Affairs, *represent the views of the Labour left and the free market right. A third journal is to be launched in the summer as an SDP/Liberal forum.* Ian Bradley *profiles the competing intellectual pressure groups as they bid to influence their parties in the long run-up to the next general election.*

The Left

Messages to a listening leader

Michael Foot and Tony Benn share a joint responsibility for the sense of intellectual excitement that is currently felt not just in the Labour Party but in the British left as a whole. The new Labour leader is much more open to ideas than either Sir Harold Wilson or James Callaghan, while the Bennite revolution has encouraged many left-wing intellectuals previously hostile to Labour to come within the party orbit and try and influence its policies.

The clearest sign of this latter trend was the formation last month of the Socialist Society which brings together for the first time since the 1930s Labour politicians and Marxist intellectuals. The society's inaugural conference was attended by Tony Benn, Eric Heffer, Ken Livingstone and Peter Tatchell. The working group behind the society's formation includes leading left-wing intellectuals like Robin Blackburn, Ralph Miliband and Raymond Williams.

The society's aim is to help create a political climate "in which socialist ideas have become part of the common sense of our age". Although it has no formal ties with the Labour Party, more than half of its first 500 members and 13 of its 30 strong steering committee (14 if you count Tariq Ali, one of the main instigators of the society and currently trying to join) are in the party.

Another recent venture springing from the same intellectual re-awakening which produced the Socialist Society but more closely tied to the Labour Party, has been the remarkably successful launch of the magazine *New Socialist*. It was set up last September by Labour's national executive committee with a budget of £1,000 and a circulation target of 5,000 to be reached in three years.

In fact, the first three issues have each sold around 35,000, more than the United Kingdom circulation of the *New Statesman*. James Curran, the editor, has complete editorial independence and is using contributors from the SDP and the far left as well as Labour Party members. He himself is a member of the steering committee of the Socialist Society and hopes to include articles by many of its leading members. The latest issue contains an interview of Michael Foot by E. P. Thompson, the historian and disarmament campaigner,and major features on Socialist Europe.

The success of these two periodicals and of the new society suggest a quickening of intellectual activity on the left which is confirmed by the present state of the Labour Party's research department. Traditionally given a more active role in policy making than its Conservative equivalent, the department is at present engaged on producing a major policy document which will appear under the title *Labour's Programme, 1982.*

The party's 12 researchers work to the Home Policy Committee, chaired by Tony Benn, and they are broadly Bennite in sympathy, voicing the common complaint of the left that recent Labour Governments have ignored manifestos and policy commitments. Morale is now much higher.

In the words of Geoff Bish, the party's head of research, "From late 1975 onwards our department was locked in a bitter struggle with the Labour Government. The speech which Jim Callaghan made to the 1976 conference was pure monetarism and we hated it. Now under the new leadership our relations with the party hierarchy are much better. We see much more of Michael Foot than we did of Wilson and Callaghan who were both suspicious of us. They were much more open to influence from the right and the City."

The only Labour think tank to escape the general sense of excitement and euphoria at the moment is the Fabian Society, the traditional home of intellectual social democracy. The Fabians have inevitably suffered from the rise of the SDP. Although they say that only 107 of their 4,000 members have left to join the new party, they have lost some of their most active pamphleteers and supporters, including Shirley Williams and John Roper. Three of those who have left regularly made donations totalling £10,000 to the society.

The Centre

A sudden spawning of sub-groups

The SDP is awash with policy study groups and think tanks and seems to have succeeded in co-opting nearly half the academic establishment of the country into its policy-making process.

At the centre of its intellectual ferment is a small department headed by Christopher Smallwood, a former academic economist and Treasury mandarin, who is the SDP's policy coordinator. He oversees the activities of a growing number of policy groups (15 at the last count) made up of academics and other experts which formally report to the party's policy committee chaired by Roy Jenkins.

These groups have themselves spawned sub-groups covering more detailed areas of policy and there are also a large number of local SDP policy groups. Borrowing from his experience in the Devolution Unit of the Cabinet, Smallwood has decreed that the policy groups should produce consultative "Green Papers" after Easter for discussion by local groups. Fuller revised papers will then go to the newly elected Council of Social Democracy in October.

Involving itself in more long-term policy research and philosophical speculations will be the newest star in the social democratic intellectual firmament, the Tawney Society. It has been set up by Lord Young of Dartington as a think tank for the new party which will provide publications and research of the kind provided for the Labour Party by the Fabian Society.

The new society has pulled in some distinguished thinkers including Peter Hall, professor of geography at Reading University, Tyrrell Burgess, reader in the philosophy of social institutions at North East London Polytechnic; Tom Burke, former executive director of Friends of the Earth; Malcolm Dean, social policy editor of *The Guardian*, and Martin Minogue, senior lecturer in the University of Manchester.

Relations with the party establishment are a little cool, not least because one of the reasons for setting up the Tawney Society was a feeling that policy-making in the SDP has been too far concentrated at the top.

Lord Young hopes that the society will have study groups working on individual areas and will publish pamphlets and, possibly, books of a more philosophical nature. He is already editor of the *Open Forum* series of SDP pamphlets, while his fellow social Democrat peer Lord Kennet is editing a series of SDP policy books to be published by Lord Weidenfeld.

The Liberals, who had hoped that the Tawney-Society would become a joint venture, have a more modest policy making machine. Peter Knowlson, head of policy, works almost as a one-man band although he does co-ordinate the activities of 25 separate policy panels. The Liberals also have their own mini-version of the Tawney Society, a discussion group called Arena whose leading lights include William-Wallace, deputy director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, and Richard Holme, director of the National Committee for Electoral Reform. Both men are speech writers and leading policy advisers to David Steel.

Liberals and Social Democrats have equal representation on two commissions set up by the two parties to examine major areas of policy: constitutional reform, and employment and industrial recovery.

Members of the two parties are also co-operating on another venture in the field of intellectual influence and policy-making. A new journal, probably to be called *The Ally*, is to be launched in the early summer. The editor will be Christopher Layton, a former Economist journalist and senior official with the EEC Commission. The editorial board includes David Marquand, Dick Taverne, John Horam, Richard Holme and William Wallace.

How far all this frantic intellectual activity impinges on the leadership of the SDP/Liberal alliance and produces radical new policies remains to be seen. At the moment there is a feeling that, in the words of one prominent figure in the alliance: "The membership is burrowing away and we've got to let them go through everything, even if it means we simply end up re-inventing the wheel."

The Right

Towards an election manifesto

Prominent in any catalogue of the intellectual influences on the present Conservative Government must be the Centre for Policy Studies, founded by Sir Keith Joseph in September 1974 to provide a corrective to the collectivist and *dirigiste* ideas which he saw as having dominated British political and economic thinking — including that of the Tories — during the twentieth century. Its critics regard it as having had a major influence in converting the Conservatives to monetarism and point to the fact that Mrs Thatcher has been intimately involved with the centre since its beginnings.

Alfred Sherman, director of studies at the centre, plays down its influence: "There's a great mythology about us among what one might call the demi-literati in the Tory Party and a feeling that ideas are much more important than they in fact are. We haven't won the soul of the party yet, but I would say that if it wasn't for the fight we put up in 1974 Edward Heath would still be leader of the opposition."

"We have affected the economic culture rather than economic policies," he said. "We have contributed to the scepticism that there is now about neo-Keynsianism, to the feeling that it's not the railways that need electrifying, but Sir Peter Parker. Keynsian remedies won't work to solve this recession because it has been caused by the attempted application of those remedies."

It is difficult to measure the centre's influence on the Prime Minister and leading members of the Cabinet. Sherman himself has direct access to Mrs Thatcher, for whom he regularly writes speeches.

Other groups representing what might be called the new intellectual right have also had a clear influence on current thinking in the Government. Prominent among them is the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), founded in 1957 to promote free market doctrines. Like the centre, the institute is conveniently situated in Westminster and senior Conservatives, along with members of other parties, attend its regular Hobart lunches.

Aims (formerly Aims of Industry) and the Institute of Directors are two other important intellectual pressure groups which have spread the free market gospel among educators and industrialists.

A group of leading industrialists which meets regularly under the auspices of the Centre for Policy Studies, Aims and the Institute of Directors is reckoned to have had a major influence on Government thinking. The Argonauts, as they are called, were first brought together because of fears that industry would put pressure on the Government to give in during the steel strike.

In contrast to the intellectual pressure groups of the new right, those bodies which have traditionally stood for a leftish, one-nation style of Toryism have suffered a decline in influence. Neither the Bow Group nor the Tory Reform Group, for example, have the same strength and vitality today that they had in the early 1970s.

The 20-strong Conservative Research Department, which has had a reputation for "wetness" under its last two directors, Chris Patten and Alan Howarth, is also in the doldrums. Mrs Thatcher has never had a close relationship with the department, which in common with other parts of Central Office has recently been subjected to fairly drastic pruning. However, the appointment last month of Peter Cropper, a fervent admirer of the Government's economic policies, as its new head is seen as heralding an upgrading and higher profile for the research department as it works towards preparing a manifesto for the next election.

Charles Griffin

Who's influencing the leaders

LABOUR

Fabian Society
Staff: 7
Budget: £95,000
Membership: 4,000
Activities: publications, meetings, 100 local groups.

Labour Party (Research Department)
Staff: 12 researchers + 6 other staff
Budget: c£200,000
Activities: policy development, campaign material, briefing spokesmen and MPs, processing constituency resolutions.

Socialist Society
Staff: 2
Membership: c500, expected to grow to 1,000 in next three months
Activities: study groups, meetings, publications (including monthly video magazine), books.

New Socialist
Circulation: 35,000
The first Labour Party discussion journal. Has close links with Socialist Society.

SDP/LIBERAL

Tawney Society
Membership: too early to say
Staff: 2 (unpaid)
Activities: running national and local study groups, publishing philosophical pamphlets, researching policy issues

SDP Policy Department
Staff: 2 + another to be appointed
Activities: co-ordinating efforts of 15 policy committees and servicing party and MPs.

Joint SDP / Liberal Commissions
Two commissions preparing reports on constitutional reform and employment / industrial recovery. Their policy proposals will be considered at this autumn's party conferences.

Liberal Party Policy Department
Staff: 3
Activities: servicing and co-ordinating 25 policy panels, also keeps a watching brief over Arena, Liberal discussion group, and other party activities.

"The Ally"
Probable title for new alliance journal

CONSERVATIVE

Centre for Policy Studies
Budget: refuse to disclose
Staff: 7
Activities: runs study groups & seminars; publishes pamphlets; aims to change climate of opinion

Institute of Economic Affairs
Budget: c£350,000
Staff: 14
Activities: runs seminars, publishes pamphlets and the *Journal of Economic Affairs*. Also home of the Social Affairs Unit

Aims (The Free Enterprise Organisation)
Budget: c£350,000 (but varies with campaigns)
Staff: 10
Activities: informing and persuading politicians, publishing, coordinates the Argonauts

Institute of Directors (External Affairs Function)
Budget: £300,000
Staff: 15
Activities: lobbying on company law, industrial relations and taxation

Conservative Party Research Department
Budget: not disclosed
Staff: 20
Activities: servicing back bench committees & MPs, preparing campaign material, policy preparation

Words and their meanings

Fraught train of thought

This morning, brothers and sisters, I am fraught with intimations of impermanence about *fraught*. It is a fashionable word. Here are a couple of examples from fashionable journalists. "In matters of Love the *fraught* old courtships of such partners as Andre and Mia and even Roddy and Margaret have been overtaken by the new-style public pairing of Billy Connolly and Pamela Stephenson." and the other: "The position of Labour's Right on the National Executive is also more *fraught* than the victory headlines suggested."

I caught myself saying it the other day. Somebody telephoned for a general discussion of life while I was making up the Books Page. How were things, he asked. Pretty *fraught*, I heard myself saying, with a gusty sigh of resignation.

This is a recent shift in meaning: too recent to be recorded by any of the new dictionaries until the *Longman New Generation Dictionary*, published last July. In the five and a half centuries of the word's history in English until the last few years, things had to be *fraught* not absolutely, but *with* something. It was originally a nautical word, meaning laden with something, and came to us from the seafaring Dutch.

Here are some examples of the former literal and transferred use of *fraught* from assorted masters of Eng Lit. Macaulay: "His painted bark of cane *Fraught* for some proud bazaar's arcades. . ." Bacon wrote of the writings of Plinius being *fraught* with much fabulous matter. Spenser: "That all the world shold with his rimes be *fraught!*" Shelley: "A loftier Argo cleaves the main, *Fraught* with a later prize."

Swift wrote, majestically, of a large memory, plentifully *fraught* with Theological Polysyllables.

Words do change their meanings to meet new needs; otherwise we should still be using crafty to mean strong, and silly to mean defenceless. I put forward a suggestion of why *fraught* has changed as it has. One of the early figurative uses of *fraught* was big with the promise or menace of something or other. The English, being people who expect the worst and are seldom disappointed, tended to be *fraught* with the latter meaning. A sixteenth-century prayer speaks of this life of ours being *fraughted* with adversities. The idea of difficulty and adversity attached itself over the years to *fraught*.

And so we have come to use *fraught* absolutely in informal speech to mean that someone is worried and in a tizzy, or that conditions are vexatious. "You're looking very *fraught*, Philip".

The new use is still too informal to be used in written English, in *The Times* at any rate, except in the chatty and thistledown parts of the paper that lack *gravitas*. It may be a passing vogue. The new use may become stale and mouldy and die. On the other hand, feeling *fraught* may fill a linguistic need in our Age of Anxiety. We shall see. In any case, it is an interesting shift in meaning that is taking place under our very ears.

Philip Howard

Never mind the dollar, our interest rates can come down now

by Gordon Pepper

The Government's economic policies seem to have few friends left. One reason is that we appear to have had the treatment but not the cure. The treatment is illustrated by the depressed level of production and the awful unemployment figures. The absence of a cure is suggested by inflation remaining stubbornly high; currently it is 12 per cent, and few can foresee a figure much lower than 8 per cent.

A second reason is that the Government targets for monetary and fiscal policy are seen to have been missed by a wide margin. There is in some quarters a kind of grim satisfaction in the money supply being out of control, the economy being in deep recession and inflation staying high.

This looks like a pretty formidable indictment. In my view, however, it is a misleading and short-sighted interpretation of the situation. While the Government has made many errors, not all of which were visible only with the benefit of hindsight, its broad strategy is still easily defended. This can best be seen by examining the proposed alternatives, most of which involve an attempt to engineer a reflation and to dispose of inflation by introducing an incomes policy.

It cannot be claimed that this combination is a leap in the dark. If history is any guide, the outcome is scarcely less predictable than death itself.

The 1970s saw two clear episodes of engineered reflation plus incomes policies. Mr Heath's succeeded, for a while, in reducing unemployment but was accompanied by a grotesque increase in the money supply and soaring wage and price inflation.

The second, begun by Mr Healey in 1977, is more relevant to present circumstances because the government sought to pay for fiscal expansion by additional borrowing (which is also what Messrs Gilmour, Jenkins and Shore seem to have in mind). In 1978/9, unemployment did fall, modestly, but interest rates rose and wage and price inflation again began to boil over.

This brings us to whether the Government's monetary and fiscal policies are indeed off course. In my judgment, although it is wise not to be categorical, it is very probable that they are not.

More precisely, monetary growth has not for long strayed far from the path laid down in the Government's Medium Term Financial Strategy, while the fiscal policy objectives have been achieved somewhat earlier than planned.

When the authorities presented the policy they stressed sterling M3, the broad definition of money which includes deposit accounts as well as current accounts and notes and coin. The Bank of England had first published a target in 1978, seeking to affect expectations and reduce inflation and interest rates. This justified a simple target expressed for just one definition of the money supply. An important reason for choosing M3 was a perceived link between it and the public sector borrowing requirement. The bank preferred M3 because this enabled it to argue with the Treasury that the PSBR was too high, i.e, that fiscal policy was too lax.

When the present Government's strategy was being designed, people outside official quarters were consulted. Some thought the Government could not control public revenue, because it could not control the depth of the impending recession. There was, therefore, a strong argument for excluding the PSBR from the published strategy. In the event, it was decided that the strategy would lose credibility if this were done. Further, Treasury ministers wanted to emphasize the PSBR to strengthen their case against expenditure ministers.

So much for the presentation, which has been a pretty complete failure; but what was the underlying intent? The Green Paper on monetary control in 1980 stressed that the authorities would monitor *all* the definitions of the money supply.

> The right approach is part science and part art. One can usually come to a reasonable judgment but sometimes the monetary barometer is jammed...

It is well known that when the authorities target any one definition, all previous relationships between it and everything else are liable to break down. As a corollary, the stance of monetary policy should be judged by looking at everything *but* the targeted variable.

The right approach is part science and part art. One can usually come to a reasonable judgment, but sometimes the monetary barometer is jammed, as it was, for example, during the civil servants' dispute. One must then look at other indicators, the best one being the exchange rate.

Following this general approach, it is arguable that monetary policy is currently not too loose but is, if anything, in danger of becoming too tight. The growth of the narrow monetary aggregates has decelerated in the last 12 months. M1 (which excludes deposit accounts) grew by 8 per cent in the year to mid-December, by 6 per cent per annum in the last six months and by only 1 per cent per annum in the last three. This should be compared with the target for sterling M3 in 1981/82 of 6-10 per cent.

Sterling M3 is highly misleading at the moment. However, the more reliable and broadest aggregate, PSL, 2 (which includes building society deposits) has had an underlying rate of growth of about 11 per cent per annum. Although there may be certain technical problems for the future, it is reasonable to conclude that monetary growth recently has not been excessive.

Turning to fiscal policy, the underlying intent was described by Mr Nigel Lawson in January, 1980, as one of "the PSBR not changing much as a proportion of gross domestic product in recession years, but falling fairly sharply in non-recession years". At that time, the PSBR was 5 per cent of gdp and is now 4.1 per cent. Instead of staying unchanged, as Mr Lawson suggested, it has fallen by 0.9 per cent of gdp, or about £2,250m. So the Government is not only broadly on track with its monetary policy but is ahead of the game with its fiscal policy.

If that is true, what are the implications? First, the period of most intense pain should be ending; the cure is starting to work. Evidence of this is:

- Inflation is starting to fall again.
- The sharp fall in economic activity ended in the second quarter of 1981 and has been followed by a gradual recovery.
- There have been large gains in productivity.
- Unfilled vacancies have risen, short time working has fallen, overtime has increased and the rise in unemployment has slowed.

If the cure goes according to plan, the economic recovery should gradually accelerate.

There are, however, a number of worries about the future, the most immediate of which is events in the United States, where President Reagan has cut taxes but not public expenditure. This has produced a clash between tight monetary and easy fiscal policy, with United States credit markets out of equilibrium.

Although United States inflation seems now to be falling, there will probably be either a further rise in dollar interest rates or United States economic activity will be more sluggish than is generally expected. Pressures from the United States promise to be disruptive and contractionary. Have we no choice but for our economy to pause again while the United States is sorting itself out?

My conclusion is that we do have a choice, and those who argue that the behaviour of sterling should be the prime determinant of United Kingdom interest rates are wrong. Our interest rates should be reduced when, as now, the domestic monetary indicators suggest that such action is appropriate, whether or not United States interest rates are rising. There is a case for over-riding the domestic monetary indicators only if sterling weakens substantially against European currencies, not if it is just falling against the dollar.

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Churchill called it the worst disaster in British military history. It was worse than that



General Percival (left) and other officers march with Japanese victors to surrender on February 15, 1942 — the picture that symbolized British defeat in Singapore.

Singapore: the bitterness lingers on, 40 years after

Winston Churchill called it "the worst disaster and largest capitulation in British military history". Forty years ago today, some 130,000 British and Commonwealth troops surrendered to a force of 55,000 Japanese after an eight week campaign — which, apart from numerous acts of individual gallantry — was an unmitigated debacle. Those same troops then marched tamely off to the prison camps blithely singing "There'll always be an Eng- land". Singapore had fallen, and with it, a way of life — although the participants at the time did not realize this.

In the immediate aftermath there were loud demands in the Commons for an official inquiry — which never sat — and harsh words were uttered. The MP for South Ayrshire referred to Malaya as "the greatest sink of corruption in the world" and described the business community there as a "swindling gang of sharks." Retrospect has done little to soften this sense of righteous outrage, and the bitterness and resentment linger on.

It is an odd quirk of national character that the British can normally delude themselves that their defeats were in reality, glorious victories. The "spirit of Dunkirk" never ceases to be invoked when times are hard and the senseless heroism of the Charge of the Light Brigade is impressed on every schoolboy. In this particular year there will be a lot of fortieth anniversaries to "celebrate", if that is the right term to use, St Nazaire, Dieppe etc, but these were but steps on the road to total victory, The loss of Singapore could not be made good.

The impression that most people have of the end of the colony comes from the well-known photograph of the surrender party. The slightly ridiculous figure of Lieutenant General Arthur Percival in his flapping knee-length shorts, the incongruous tin hats and the limp Union Jack as they marched up the Bukit Timah road, tells it all. The fact remains though, that the very act of surrender signified more than a military defeat. It was the end of an era.

For the first time in history, a major Western power had been defeated fairly and squarely in battle by a supposedly "inferior" Asian race. This lesson was not lost on the native inhabitants of the East. The mythical British Crown, of which they were loyal subjects, had not kept its side of the bargain — it had failed to protect them. Since the war there has been no hesitation in apportioning blame. The military blamed the greed of the civilian community and their obstructiveness, while the business community reciprocated by vilifying the blimpishness and inefficiency of the soldiery. In all this there are elements of truth — civilians dancing at Raffles Hotel while enemy bombers droned over the defenceless city and undisciplined mobs of drunken soldiers storming the docks to try to get on to one of the last ships to leave. But who can blame those soldiers? They had no part in the wealth they had been sent to defend and they were often treated as social pariahs by the white expatriates who placed their clubs "out of bounds" to the sweaty soldiery.

Myths and misconceptions cluster around the story of Singapore like vultures around a corpse and these myths die hard. Perhaps the most durable one is that the island was a fortress but the guns all pointed the wrong way. The point is that the guns, although designed to fire out to sea, could mostly be trained around to fire inland, and did so.The problem was that they had the wrong ammunition- armour-piercing the sink battleships rather than high-explosive to deal with troops.

One problem that is always asked is, could Singapore have held out? Percival's defeat is often compared unfavourably with the American General Wainwright's epic defence of Bataan and Corregidor in the Phillipines, which was roughly contemporary. Some people have claimed that if some sort of "supremo" had been appointed the island could have held out until relieved.

The fact is though, that the main reason for the surrender was that the water supply for the colony was situated on the mainland in Johore — and that was firmly in the hands of the Japanese. Faced by the problem of a two million civilian population and no aircraft to protect them from the almost continuous bombing, Percival had no choice. The fault lay with successive prewar governments who failed to face up to the threat of war in the East and the inter-service rivalry that made a farce of sensible defence planning.

Of those captured, many failed to return and left their bones in the jungle work camps. Those that did come back are left today with an understandable sense of bitterness and frustration. They feel that their sacrifice has been forgotten, used as we are to tales of German camps. They claim that while PoW's in Germany were enjoying concerts and studying for university courses, they were being systematically beaten, starved and humiliated.

They still hate their captors, although their protest is largely confined to a refusal to buy Japanese cars and stereos. In fairness, however, it has to be pointed out that the Japanese operated under a different code to the rules of war developed in the Western Christian nations. They tended to treat their own troops just as badly as their prisoners: Had General Percival and the rest of the officer prisoners ritually slit their stomachs open after the surrender, their captors would have held them in the highest esteem.

British historians have for many years tended to pour scorn on the poor performance of the French in 1940. They, too believed that they had a "fortress" as they sat confidently behind the Maginot Line, inviting the Germans to invade elsewhere. We built our Maginot Line in Singapore to defend ourselves against a Japanese fleet and refused to believe in the possibility of a landborne invasion.

Refusal to face the facts of the necessity for defence planning in peacetime is one of the major defects of all democracies. How can peace-loving countries prepare for war? Statesmen believed in 1918 that the age of universal peace had dawned and when they awoke it was too late. It is this rather than any shortcomings of those on the spot which has to be blamed for the fall of Singapore.

Anthony Kemp

The author is the co-author of The Bitter End, the Fall of Singapore 1941-42, *to be published by Antony Bird Publications on February 27.*

Life begins at seventy

by George Mikes

Although in 1970 I was thrown out of Hungary as a dangerous imperialist spy, I still have a relationship with it. Quite soon after my expulsion I received semi-official, or at least officially inspired, messages telling me that I ought not to make too much of the incident (after all, what is a little spying between friends?) and that if I were to apply for a Hungarian visa it would be granted.

I replied that it was nice to know this and that when I next wanted to visit Hungary I would apply. I did so in 1979, and they did grant me a visa. They also rolled out — well, not a red, but a pale pink carpet for me, received me with perfect courtesy, and enabled me to enjoy my stay at home as I still call Hungary, although I do not think of it as "home".

My feelings about Hungary have always been very ambivalent, but some things about it I definitely love: the countryside round Silós, for example — those gentle hills and green mountains of Transdanubia. As a child it never occurred to me that the village's surroundings could strike anyone as beautiful, but when I saw them again in 1970 I realised that they were.

So what about my feelings for Britain? The English took me in at a critical period [1938] and probably saved my life: if I had not been here I would have been sent to a concentration camp or would have had to serve in a Labour Battalion: I might have come out of it alive, or I might not. But gratitude is no basis for a solid relationship, and my love for this country is not based on it.

I like it here, and I always have liked it here... although in an earlier book I was not so positive about it. I said that during my early time in this country "I admired the English enormously but did not like them very much; today I admire them much less but love them much more". Perhaps the first part of that statement ought to have been put a little differently, but the second part of it remains exactly true.

Could I ever leave England? Friends often urge me to spend at least half of my time abroad — to buy a little house in France or Italy. I always refuse to do so. One change of country is enough for a lifetime.

"But don't you want to live abroad?" they ask me. I tell them: "But I *do* live abroad". And I mean it. I feel perfectly at home here, this is my country, I belong to this place — yet I continue to feel that I am living among strange and peculiar people and that my real kith and kin are those even stranger and more peculiar people on the banks of the Danube.

It ought to be an unsettling situation, but it is perfectly all right with me. In any case, what can I do about it?

Would I stick to England in all circumstances? No, I would not. It would not occur to me to run away if it were threatened by a nuclear holocaust because I have lived long enough and although I would not mind going on a little longer, if London went up in flames I would like to claim the honour of going up with it.

But if Britain turned fascist — either black or red fascist — that would be an utterly different matter. Then I would like to try to get away, and brood for the rest of my life. Fortunately, in spite of race riots, inner-city battles, football hooliganism and all the rest, I do not take such a threat at all seriously.

George Mikes as seen by Nicolas Bentley

The important question for me is this: is there a conflict between my allegiance to Britain and my love for Hungary? There is not; but it is possible that such a conflict might arise.

The supreme loyalty of an ancient Greek was to his city state; medieval man's loyalty was to his faith; modern man invented nationalism but can often feel that the primary loyalty belongs to an idea — communism, for example. I, being a child of my times, accept the idea of allegiance to a country — or rather, to two countries.

I am a devout European. I want the whole of Europe to unite into one democratic state. For a long time I believed that I wanted this for solid and logical reasons: Britain, as a little off-shore island, could not survive alone; being insular was absurd; our economic future is bound up with that of the rest of Europe, etc etc.

I still think all this is true but now I know that my original conviction — like all convictions — was based on purely personal considerations. If Europe becomes one, if national frontiers disappear, then no conflict can possibly arise between my allegiances and I will be able to love both my countries with a clear conscience, just as one may love say, Nottingham and Birmingham, or Northumberland and Essex.

Looking back at my life it seems that it has been a long string of anecdotes. Naturally, when I received blows they were blows, and not jokes; but somehow I have forgotten the blows and remember only the pleasant events and the anecdotes. The anecdotes are very important.

Apt and well-told stories are the spice of life and the treasures of a life-time. I was in Greece with a beautiful and clever girl friend, Eva, dining with my friends, Antonis and Eleni Samarakis, he a writer, she a lawyer. Antonis started telling a story and Eleni exclaimed: "Oh Antonis, I've heard that one 200 times!"

Then I started a story, and Eva sighed: "God, that one again...".

And so it went on. Finally, when Eleni protested yet again, Antonis turned to her and said gently: My dear Eleni, if a man's wife is bored by a man's stories there is one thing the man can do: change his wife. He can't possibly change his stories".

Quite. But it is because of all these stories that I am not a more significant writer than I am. Happily, being significant has never really been my ambition — nor being a proper humorist. Every humorist worth his salt is neurotic, depressed and afflicted with a gastric ulcer. What sort of a humorist is a man who accepts the world as it is (not without a sigh, but accepts it), adjusts to it and likes it here?

Unlike Malcolm Muggeridge, I do not look forward to death with eager anticipation. He hopes to get to heaven but he may, of course, get the shock of his death by getting nowhere at all. I do not expect to survive in any form or fashion and have no desire to do so. What a horrible place this world would be if all the people ever born were still around. What a burden it would be on the Ministries of Pensions all over the world.

Being born involves the certainty of death. Only those countless millions, the unborn ones, are really safe. They will not die, but neither can they have any fun. I think it is one of the beauties of life that it is not eternal. It would be a frightful bore to go on and on and on, even in reasonable health.

Besides, I am used to being dead. Death is simple non-existence and we are all used to non-existing. I did not exist in 500 BC or in 50,000 BC or in 1793. Why should not existing in 2117 or 3117 be any different?

Death is simply the end of the story. If one is lucky, a good end to a pleasant story. For me, if I am lucky, it will be simply the last anecdote.

George Mikes' latest book, How To Be Seventy is published today, his seventieth birthday, André Deutsch at £7.95.

THE TIMES DIARY

No British passports for Pitcairn

One of Britain's oldest and most remote colonial possessions is in danger of being abandoned because of increasing isolation and indifference by the mother country.

Pitcairn Island, founded in 1790 by Fletcher Christian and fellow mutineers on HMS Bounty, now has only 61 inhabitants, no regular radio contact with the outside world and only three supply ships a year.

And the islanders, of mixed British and Tahitian stock but fervently British in sentiment, have just discovered that the new Nationality Bill has deprived them of their British passports. Whitehall even forgot to invite an islander to the Royal Wedding.

Glynn Christian, a direct descendant of the man who challenged Captain Bligh — and better known in this country as the television cook on the BBC's Pebble Mill at One — has now launched a campaign to save his ancestral home from extinction.

The islanders, who are governed by a high commissioner resident in New Zealand, only have morse code contact with the outside world for 10 minutes a day. In 1850 47 whaling ships called in at Pitcairn but now only northbound ships from New Zealand stop there.

Glynn Christian, who is calling for a satellite radio link, a landing strip and a bit more interest from the Foreign Office, believes that £2m pounds will need to be raised privately if the last British colony in the South Pacific is to be saved.

Des. Res., USA

Two executives from the New York headquarters of Sotheby's Realty Corporation are in London today to argue that "desirable properties and houses of character often cost less in the USA". Among the names to conjure with they quote in their list of satisfied clients is "John De Lorean, the motor car manufacturer", who last year" bought a 430-acre farm in New Jersey".

An Independent Broadcasting Authority report notes that some local BBC stations have developed a strong tradition of minority and access programmes, "so much so that one producer sometimes regarded BBC local radio as 'appealing only to a blind, bell-ringing, deaf, canal-loving member of a women's institute'."

Under-booked

You might not have noticed, but Frank Delaney's edition of *Friday Night Saturday Morning* on BBC 2 this weekend was supposed to be a sharp reminder to the Beeb that there is a bookish audience it is shamefully neglecting. "It is a national scandal that there is no regular television programme about books", Delaney protests.

BBC 2 discontinued *The Book Programme*; BBC 1 dropped *Read All About It*, which achieved audiences of 3m to 4m. Delaney, whose Radio 4 *Bookshelf* raised 6,000 inquiries for a first novel competition in one week, says he also got 120 letters from a single six-minute spot on *Pebble Mill* devoted to poetry. "People are starving for lack of coverage of literature", he claims.

Anthony Burgess, one of Delaney's guests, has none the less succeeded in selling well over 500,000 copies of *Earthly Powers* internationally. How is it that English fiction sells so well without TV backing? "The dimension people have missed", Burgess told PHS, "is that the English really have had a good two or three years in which they have produced a considerable body of fiction of outstanding worth. It may be a symptom of a sick society. The first Elizabethan age had a roaring inflation, worse than we have ever known, caused by gold from the New World, and they got Shakespeare.

"The Victorians suffered malnutrition, pestilence, and extreme cruelty, and they had Tennison, Browning and Dickens."



Appropriately Sir Billy Butlin, the man who gave Britain holiday camps has the jolliest and most visited of graves.

Butlin who died in 1980 is buried in St John's cemetery, Jersey. The tomb, to hold 10, has a headstone with carvings depicting an amusement park, a holiday camp with chalets and swimming pool, and the jolly fisherman from the prewar poster, "Skegness is so bracing". This bouncy fellow was a motif on all Butlin's stationery.

Lady Butlin, who has written a preface to Butlin's autobiography to be published in June, tells PHS the grave is visited by thousands of holidaymakers every year.

A type of fame

The owner of Hopkin's Crank, a Sussex farmhouse at Ditchling Common, is to commemorate with a plaque the fact that Eric Gill, the sculptor and type-designer, lived there.

Brian Manley, managing director of Philips Business System and present incumbent at the house, has commissioned the plaque from John Skelton, Gill's nephew and last apprentice.

In Portland stone, the plaque will be engraved with letters with square-ended serifs. Though Gill, who died in 1940, is best remembered for the still widely used Gill Sans typeface, which lacks serifs, Skelton is sure his lettering is "such as Eric might have done with a slightly up-to-date touch".

The plaque will be unveiled on Sunday by Gill's publisher, Douglas Cleverdon.

Van Lennep again?

Disagreement on the choice of a new secretary general for the Organization For Economic Cooperation and Development could leave member countries no option but to ask Emile Van Lennep to continue in his post, senior OECD diplomats said this weekend.

Van Lennep, aged 67, a former Dutch treasurer-general who has headed the Paris-based OECD since 1969, is scheduled to retire on March 31.

However, with barely six weeks left, permanent representatives of the 24 OECD countries have still to make a unanimous choice.

After several months of secret consultations, three candidates are still in the race: former Italian finance minister Filippo Maria Pandolfi, 54, who has the backing of several European states; Staffan Burenstam Linder, 51, a former Swedish minister of commerce, who is supported by five Northern European countries; and Helga Steeg, 54, a close aide to West German Economy minister Otto Lambsdorff, who is being championed by the USA and West Germany.

Against the grain

It would be appropriate if the EEC agriculture ministers meeting in Brussels today had rice pudding for lunch.

Barrie Williams, deputy director-general of the Food Manufacturers' Federation, says that the EEC's rice regulations put 8p on the price of a pound of round-grain pudding rice in British shops, and 11p on a pound of long-grain.

These are the amounts of levy imposed to protect Italian rice farmers. Williams says the Italians cannot grow enough round-grain rice to satisfy British demand and do not produce proper long-grain rice at all. Theirs, he says, is "stodgy, sticky stuff" which might do for risotto but makes heavy going of British curries.

Signs of hope

Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission, is a Virgo and that is a happy sign for Europe. This is the finding in a secret nine-page report drawn up two and a half months ago by Elizabeth Teissier du Cros, a French astrologist, and now released by the commission.

The period between 1981 and 1984, coinciding with Thorn's term of office, "will be a period of profound and even brutal change. It falls to you to deal with it. Fortunately for all of us, you seem to be both an open and lucid man", the astrologist tells Thorn.

The president has to expect social violence starting on September 21, difficulties from the new moon from October 16, and an unhappy first half of November brought about by the conjunction of Saturn with Pluto. Happy events could occur on March 1 and July 23, while petroleum talks could have a good outcome on March 11.

Animal cunning

Jacques-Marcel Viney, the recently retired chef of the Ritz honoured with a luncheon there last week, had in his time cooked camel, hedgehog, rat and fox. Viney had a hard war, much of it as a prisoner in Buchenwald and other camps where prisoners ate what they could catch.

Rat "though dirty as an animal, is perfectly all right if you cut off the head and clean it up thoroughly." Hedgehogs are of two kinds, dog-muzzled and pig-muzzled. "The pig-muzzled are much the better."

The first fox he caught proved devilish hard, but the second he left in snow for two weeks and it was beautifully tender. M Viney has cooked camel steaks, too, but even he could not make them sound very alluring.



PHS does not know if British hedgehogs are the pig-muzzled variety Chef Viney prefers, but Major Adrian Coles has just launched the British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

The major says he met an overwhelming response when he persuaded Shropshire County Council to fit hedgehog ramps to cattle grids. "People wrote to me from all over Britain and beyond."

PHS

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

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REASONABLE PEOPLE

No political party is at its best when debating its own constitution. In that respect the Social Democrats have shown themselves to be representatives of the old rather than the new politics at their constitutional convention in Kensington this weekend. The proceedings were not always so smooth nor the conclusions so clear as the party would have wished. One of the characteristics of a Social Democrat seems to be a penchant for a point of order.

The difficulty can be attributed partly to the nature of the proceedings. All parties tend to become bogged down in wordy debate when deciding how to govern themselves, and one should not be surprised that the SDP failed to be an exception to this law. But part of the trouble was also that the Social Democrats did not appreciate that a clear line needs to be drawn between the *function* of a constitution and a statement of policy.

So the draft constitution presented to the convention tried to do too much. A particular case in point was the attempt to secure a fair role for women in the party. Had the convention been asked to approve the proposition that it would be desirable to have more women in the House of Commons and in positions of power and infulence in the SDP there can be no doubt that there would have been overwhelming, probably unanimous, approval: the impression was confirmed at Kensington that Social Democrats are reasonable, enlightened and mostly midddle-class people. The difficulty arose over the attempt to express a generally accepted sentiment as to what should happen into precise rules as to what must happen.

While there was a clear majority for giving women a minumum number of places on short lists for parliamentary candidates, the sticking point for the convention was the proposal that women should have half the places on the Council for Social Democracy, which is to have the principal responsibility for party policy. The final tie, with 150 votes on each side, represented a deadlock between attachment to the principle of sexual equality and a fear of the party tying itself down with excessive regulation.

The issue will now be resolved in a ballot of all SDP Members. As with most questions concerning the internal processes of a political party, what matters most is that whatever rule is adopted should be generally acceptable, or at least adopted by generally acceptable methods. The ballot is therefore a wise provision. In casting their votes, though, the members might reflect that rigid stipulations of this sort usually work well when there is a very wide measure of agreement on them. Otherwise there will soon develop a frustration within those areas which feel that they are precluded from being represented on the national council as they would prefer.

The other principal issue that will be determined by a ballot is how the parliamentary leader should be elected. The members will be given three choices: election by the parliamentary party; by all members of the party now, but by the parlimentary party after the next general election; and by all members of the party with a compulsory review after three years. There was a majority at the convention for the third of these choices.

If this is the preference of SDP members it will be a perfectly reasonable decision. A strong case can be made for extending party democracy as widely as possible in the belief that this is the best safeguard against the excessive influence of small cliques of activists — that evil from so many Social Democratic politicians suffered during their years in the Labour Party. But this would not be the best method of electing the leader because fellow MPs have the best opportunity of judging who would be most adequately fitted to bear the strains and trials of office. Nor would election by the whole membership be the method preferred by the steering committee.

It was significant that the convention was not prepared to be swayed by the steering committee on this question. This was one of a number of occasions over the weekend when it was apparent that the SDP will not be so amenable to central direction as many people have supposed. It has been fashionable up to now to contrast the sometimes unruly democracy of the Liberals with the greater order maintained by the Social Democrats. But it may well be that this weekend will be remembered not for the detailed decisions on the constitution but for the first strong evidence that local Social Democrats have more of a mind of their own than their leaders will always find convenient.

THE BEST ASSAD WE HAVE

Reports from Syria of opposition to the regime of President Assad need to be treated with caution. But the State Department — accused by Damascus of "exaggeration" — is probably not far wide of the mark in its assessment of events in Hama and other towns. The Muslim Brotherhood has clearly staged a show of force so impressive that even massive government counter-action has apparently still not wiped out resistance.

Armed opposition by the fundamentalist Brotherhood has been persistent and well organized over a period of years, and the Assad regime has had to resort to random and bloody terror in an effort to root it out. With Muslim fundamentalism infecting the armed forces — his own power base — President Assad has had to rely on the notorious "special brigades" commanded by his brother Rifaat. Judging by reports of an abortive coup last month, disaffection extends to officers of the minority Alawite sect — from which the Syrian elite is drawn — who are alarmed by the scale and intensity of Sunni anti-Alawite feeling.

There is a temptation to argue that since President Assad has adopted a radical stand in the Arab world and is in formal alliance with the Soviet Union, his departure from the scene might ease matters. In fact, the reverse is almost certainly the case. The Muslim Brotherhood — despite its theoretical adherence to democracy — is an underground terrorist organization, strictly hierarchical and conspiratorial. Its declared aim is to establish a fudamentalist Islamic state. The thought of another Khomeini in Damascus — albeit a Sunni rather than Shi-ite one — is enough to send shivers up Arab as well as Western spines. The probable alternative — a regime dedicated to the total elimination of the Brotherhood — is equally unpalatable, since it would involve ruthlessness and cruelty surpassing even that of the present regime.

This leaves President Assad clinging to power, but through methods which are just this side of civil war, and have effectively crippled him as a political force on the Middle East stage. His record shows him to be a man of straightforward dealing and statesmanlike behaviour; very far from the doctrinaire radical some imagine him to be. There are indications that, if circumstances allowed, President Assad might revert to the position he had gradually worked round to in 1977, before Camp David, and consider the terms of an accommodation with Israel.

As long as the Assad regime is precarious, neither Israel nor the moderate Arab states can expect much beyond negative and obstructive tactics from Damascus. The danger is that Israel, seeing Syria not only torn by internal unrest but also at odds with its Arab neighbours, Jordan and Iraq, might take advantage of Syrian weakness to launch a large scale invasion of Southern Lebanon, with the aim of eliminating Palestinian bases, on the assumption that the Arabs will remain as impotent on this as on the Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights.

If Jerusalem is making such calculations, it should think again. No Israeli operation can ever wipe out the Palestinians in Lebanon, which has in any case suffered enough. And there is no guarantee that Syria, however overstretched, would not respond militarily. On the contrary, might not a defensive and insecure President Assad feel obliged to prove his strength by launching the attack on Israel his detractors in Syria have long accused him of wishing to avoid at all costs?

David Wood

Skirl of the bagpipes for Mr Jenkins

On the Biblical principle that all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword, so it could prove that all they who live by public relations shall perish by publicity. Certainly the Social Democratic Party, after a remarkable year that has added priceless column inches to its stature, now begins to take a few bruising knocks from the media it courted and got courted by.

In one or two opinion polls its brand share of the electoral market has begun to slump, as the two main parties recover a little ground. Last week in the Commons, much like the dear old Liberal Party of yesteryear, the SDP Group managed to split three ways over the Tebbit Bill to put the trade unions back under a mild curb of law; and in Kensington Town Hall over the weekend men who broke away from Labour on the issue of constitutional change began to run into comic trouble with the drafting of their own constitution.

A cliche that has served every journalist at some time in his life may be adapted to serve again: not quite the honeymoon but rather the love affair between SDP and the media seems to ending.

SDP is no longer a novelty, no longer David challenging Goliath. Unless the Gang of Four can keep winning a by-election now and then, unless they can show a few times each week that they are genuinely different from the old parties, then they will become a bore; and a jounalist bored to distraction and denied his story is a dangerous beast to travel in any politician's entourage.

Looking back over SDP's first year, we can accept that Mr Roy Jenkins and the rest caught a widespread public and Fleet Street mood created by the failure of the Government to fulfil the expectations of 1979, and no less by the failure of Labour to provide evidence that it could be trusted as the alternative government. The Liberal genes in British politics are always strong if latent, but the Liberal Party had failed electorally so often that it offered no chance of Parliamentary growth. In such circumstances a fourth national party, even if it was old wine in new bottles and labelled Premier Cru, had its attractions both as a fresh story for the media to tell excitedly and as a solution to the problems of nicer voters who wanted to register a protest against either Conservatives or Labour.

No matter that the SDP had no settled policies. No matter that it had no Moses as leader. No matter that it had no constitution. No matter that its membership was fairly small and scattered, and pretty middle-class and of socialist leanings. No matter that it had no constituency organization to speak of, and no candidates except for Labour renegades. All these missing elements in the prospectus would be filled in with the passing of time, and on the day after the next general election no voter needed to doubt that there would be a leader waiting for the summons from Buckingham Palace.

That was almost exactly what a sizable public mood required during 1981. Settled policies? As Mr Jenkins saw on his retreat from socialism, cut and dried policies usually turned out to be millstones, and it was better to be Asquithian and broadly say that SDP would do what was necessary when it was necessary while being consistently high minded, right minded, and marvellously civilized. And the leadership: who should choose and who would it be? That question could go into the pending tray, along with anything else that was troublesome or against the grain of the public relations image.

Granted the growing public mood, the next move had a touch of genius. Mr David Steel, the Liberal Leader, had for a long time been convinced that his party stood no chance of power on its own, and he stood ready to persuade it into yet another fateful coalition, if he could squeeze from anybody the necessary bargain of a commitment to bring in proportional representation. So Mr Jenkins, moving off Socialism, made a deal with Mr Steel, who was a radical Liberal moving towards Socialism, or at any rate towards Socialist causes. The Alliance was born, and came into the world with less screaming and kicking than might have been thought likely. Mr Steel had gained a lot of Indian chiefs with an unknown number of Indians; Mr Jenkins and the Limehouse Gang had gained a lot of Indians in the constituencies to justify the chiefs' feathers they wore. It must be admitted the bargain struck was satisfactory at first to both sides at the top, if not lower down in the Liberal Party. We now begin to see, though, all the gerrymandering that accompanies any coalition; and if ever the Alliance forms a government the in-fighting will commit political reporters to recording a king of pornography seven days each week that may get them hailed before the Press Council.

There are times when I suspect or hope that Mr McJenkins is having fun and paying off old scores, now he is back from Brussels, over sixty, and financially fancy free. Nevertheless, in a spirit of Beaverbrookian mischief even I should like to see him win the Glasgow by-election, so long as he promises not to turn up in the Commons wearing the kilt in a fashionable cut.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Easing the burden of taxation

From Sir William Clark, MP for Croydon South (Conservative) and Mr Michael Grylls, MP for Surrey North West (Conservative)

Sir, Much of the discussion about opportunities for tax cuts open to the Chancellor in the Budget has oversimplified the issues.

The choice is not between help for business through cuts in the National Insurance surcharge and help for individuals through income tax cuts. The Chancellor needs a package which maximizes economic efficiency and stimulus to industry of the limited funds available, whilst improving incentives for individual taxpayers to work, save and invest. Equally important is the need to provide clear evidence to workers who have faced creeping tax increases in the past year, that they will receive a fair share of the rewards of better monetary control, lower pay settlements, improving productivity and company profitability.

These criteria point strongly towards easing the income tax burden on individuals as the Chancellor's immediate priority. But commerce and industry would benefit significantly from such a decision.

Economic growth and new employment are increasingly found in the self-employed and small-firm sector. Income tax cuts would be of direct assistance there. Many owners of businesses, especially retailers, find lack of consumer demand and orders a more immediate problem than property, wage or material costs. Consumer spending power is the most effective means of allocating resources to business. Some spending will go on imports, especially from other EEC States, but progressive British firms fully accept this as a corollary of the huge home market in Europe they now enjoy.

Income tax cuts now would serve two vital purposes. First, they would put resources back with the consumer, whose economic decisions are most likely to determine business success and foster growth economy. There spending will provide extra orders needed by in firms which have survived recession so far.

Second, a cut in income tax would show every voter that the policies of the Government are succeeding. Ministers have often said that putting the economy right was a 10-year task and this point has not escaped the business community. We believe the re-election of a Conservative government is vital to the survival of the free enterprise system, the prosperity of business, and the standard of living of everyone.

Although we regard Labour's infamous "payroll tax" as wrong in principle and look forward to its eventual abolition, a cut in NIS would grant a large unearned benefit to the inefficient, extravagant public sector.

We are very aware of the electoral support in 1979 for the Chancellor's declared target of reducing the standard rate to 25p in the pound by the end of this parliament. That objective would be impossible to achieve without a reduction on March 9.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM CLARK, Chairman,
Finance Committee,
MICHAEL GRYLLS, Chairman,
Industry Committee,
House of Commons.
February 10.

Judgment implications on fares subsidy

From the Leader of the Greater London Council

Sir, In recent weeks the question of finance for London Transport has received much attention. Unfortunately there remains a genuine confusion over the real meaning of the law lords judgment, in part a consequence of obfuscation by Government.

According to eminent counsel, whose opinion we sought, the judgment can only mean that all subsidy to LT — not just for fares — has to be avoided, if it is practicable to do so. As a consequence, fares must be raised, and services curtailed, until subsidy has been reduced to a minimum.

The Secretary of State for Transport is attempting to convey a different impression. He says that it is reasonable to permit subsidy to avoid further high fares increases. He says that the doubling of fares on March 21 is needed as the price to pay for the GLC's transport policies since May 1981. On the first point, we can only agree. However, if he means it, he should legislate for it; as his statement as it stands contradicts the law lords. On the second point he is just plain wrong. The doubling of fares is required solely to meet the new legal requirements prescribed by the lords. The cheap fares appreciated by Londoners since October 4 will be paid for by a once-for-all payment from the rates. The better services that we ran (what Mr Howell in his "newspeak" calls high cost policies) cost only a tiny fraction of the sum to be raised by the fares increase.

Ever-increasing fares and ever-reducing sevices are a recipe for disaster; not just for passengers, but also for employers, workers, car drivers and London's residents who face congestion, delays, high costs and pollution.

Mr Howell once said that our cheap fares policy was "fatally flawed" because of the burden on the rates. His concern has to be set against the fact that his own Government increased this burden by 60 per cent by penalising our spending.

The GLC wants no additional government funds, only an end to penalties on London's ratepayers. All we want is the right to return to the position that prevailed from 1969 until the judgment, when all parties in Government and at the GLC believed that fares subsidies were legal, subject to the wishes of the London electorate.

Yours sincerely,
KEN LIVINGSTONE,
Members' Lobby,
The County Hall, SE1.

Lead in petrol

From Mr L. Raphael

Sir, The reports on lead in petrol published in *The Times* this week (February 8) together with your leading article (February 9) have drawn conclusions which are not substantiated by the facts. Members of Parliament have quoted erroneous statements which grossly distort the picture.

No country at present uses exclusively lead-free petrol. The USA has made available unleaded petrol, but it is also the largest manufacturer of tetraethyl lead, used only for raising the octane number of petrol, and most of its production for the domestic market. The USSR claims that unleaded petrol is sold in its major cities, but imports large quantities of tetraethyl lead to supplement its own manufacture.

It is completely naive to imagine that lead can be eliminated from petrol overnight. West Germany upgrades its low-lead petrol (0.15 g/litre) by importing high-octane components, which would not be immediately available if all EEC countries followed the same route. Refinery processes in the United States differ from those in Europe and high-octane components supply about half the domestic market to boost unleaded petrol. A barrel of crude oil has its limitations; more high-octane petrol means other products go short.

No one will dispute that lead is toxic and can seriously damage health. The surveys showing the relationship between IQ and lead in the blood do not confirm that the subjects have absorbed lead from car exhaust fumes. Lead smelters, old paint and lead pipes for water supply are all sources of contamination. Natives in New Guinea, far removed from the effects of motor cars, were found to have blood with higher lead levels than Europeans.

Tetraethyl lead has been used in petrol for over 50 years and there is no evidence that the intelligence of the population has deteriorated. Lower standards of numeracy and literacy among teenagers (Cockcroft report) are due to financial restraints in education budgets, not to lead in petrol.

We all benefit from the affluence created by cheap energy, but in times of crisis the oil industry becomes the scapegoat.

Yours faithfully,
LEON RAPHAEL,
60 Marsh Lane,
Stanmore,
Middlesex.
February 10.

Mapping for the future

From the President of the Royal Town Planning Institute

Sir, In his lucid letter (February 2) Mr John Wright has missed one important point: at least half of the work by professionals which requires the use of plans falls within the public sector. Thus, if the user charges for plans are raised to cover Ordnance Survey costs, more than £10m will continue to be paid by the taxpayer or ratepayer.

Increased user charges will lead to more illegal copying and some of the larger users will attempt their own surveys. The result is likely to be a vicious circle of rising charges and falling usage which would save very little public money and destroy the Ordnance Survey

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW THORBURN,
President,
The Royal Town Planning Institute,
26 Portland Place, W1.
February 3.

Girls' borstal problems

From Miss A. E. Mace

Sir, The pressure group, 'Keep Out," has now joined in highlighting (report, February 10) the particular problems relating to Bullwood Hall borstal, Essex, which I can only agree has one of the most difficult and disturbed populations in the whole of the penal system.

A high level of tension, stress and psychiatric disturbance contributes to a degree of violence which markedly affects the future outlook for young women serving sentences there, and makes working conditions extremely tough for all staff, in whatever role they are employed.

In fourteen years of experience in the Probation and After-Care Service in various parts of the country I have entered no more depressing, sad, or occasionally frightening, institution than Bullwood Hall. When the Governor of HM Prison, Wormwood Scrubs, drew attention to the degrading conditions in many penal institutions I was concerned that the issue about conditions in custody should not become too narrowly focused on problems of dereliction and squalor when we also need to give attention to the destructive and hopeless environment prevailing in more modern young offender institutions where overcrowding, under-staffing and lack of any opportunity to carry through a purposeful daily routine means that these institutions can achieve in a short time the perpetuation of a supply of penal dustbin-liners for the future.

Youth custody sentences should surely only be imposed when a young offender is a danger to society or demonstrably unwilling, or unable, to respond to non-custodial alternatives.

These criteria would apply to some who reach the Bullwood Hall "end of the line". They would not apply to the majority whose future outlook is less hopeful as a result of the time they are incarcerated here in a remote part of Essex cut off from families, relatives and the community in which they have ultimately to try and re-establish themselves and lead socially acceptable lives.

I support planned closure of Bullwood Hall borstal in it present role as the only secure custodial regime for 15-21 year old females in this country, its replacement by community-based or hospital provision for many of the girls who are presently received there, and the establishment of custodial provision on a regional basis for those girls who *do* need secure containment whilst they are helped towards rehabilitation.

Yours faithfully,
ANNE E. MACE,
Chief Probation Officer,
Essex Probation and After-Care Service,
Central Office,
Market Buildings,
Market Road,
Chelmsford,
Essex.

Chemical weapons

From Sir Philip Goodhart, MP for Bromley, Beckenham (Conservative).

Sir, In your leading article, "Chemical arsenals" (February 10) you say that "there are no reliable estimates of the Soviet capability" as far as chemical warfare is concerned.

Our latest information in this field is classified, but it is well known that the Russian have stockpiled more than 115,000 tons of chemical weapons. This stockpile includes tens of thousands of tons of poison gas shells which are ready for immediate use. We know that they are pressing ahead with their researches on improved forms of nerve gas and blister gas, and have more than 70,000 specially trained chemical troops deployed with their forces on the Central Front. As there is no effective Nato chemical capability, these 70,000 Soviet specialists are obviously deployed to disseminate and then neutralize Russian gases.

As far as chemical warfare is concerned, this country disarmed unilaterally soon after the end of World War II, and, as you say, the United States abandoned the manufacture of chemical weapons in 1969. Any surviving American stockpiles are deteriorating rapidly and, as you point out, "will shortly become more dangerous to their possessors than to their potential aggressors". I have never been able to understand why so many people in Europe seem to think that unilateral nuclear disarmament by the West will produce a sympathetic response on the part of the Soviet authorities, when there is clear proof in the past decade that unilateral chemical disarmament by Nato has merely provoked an increase in Soviet stockpiles and chemical capability.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOODHART,
House of Commons.

Victims of rape

From Dr Robin Moffat

Sir, May I comment upon the helpful letter from Mrs Raine Roberts concerning the fate of victims of sexual offences (February 9)? During twenty-five years police practice in London I have never sensed an "accusatory atmosphere" in the police station where rape victims are seen. In most cases the victim is asked to choose a male or female doctor and whether she wishes to be examined in the surgeon's room at the police station or in the doctor's own surgery. Modern stations have specially equipped rooms for this purpose.

I entirely agree that experience is essential but it takes time to acquire: and to prevent male medical practitioners their right to gain the necessary expertise would be a very short-sighted policy. Many victims come forward and receive a lengthy, sympathetic hearing plus a full medical examination from doctors of both sexes and long may this continue. Special units are not the answer to this problem and, truth to tell, some victims prefer to seek counselling and after-care from male general practitioners.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely,
ROBIN MOFFAT,
Metropolitan Police Surgeon,
10 Harley Street, W1.
February 9.

Productivity deals

From Mr J. K. Morland

Sir, It is astonishing that no reporter of the present dispute between British Rail and Aslef has drawn attention to what actually happened in similar circumstances in the United States.

In that country the featherbedding tactics of the powerful rail unions were a major factor in the spectacular bankruptcies of giant concerns such as the New York Central and Pennsylvania Railroads. On the other hand the much smaller Florida East Coast Railway, which in 1962 successfully combated a particularly vicious strike with great courage, achieved productivity deals that enabled it to transform itself into one of the world's most modern and efficient railways with correspondingly high moral amongst its employees.

Your faithfully,
J. K. MORLAND,
Chartwood House,
Punchbowl Lane,
Dorking,
Surrey.
February 11.

Stalemate in Cyprus

From Mr John Mylonas

Sir, Mr O. F. Muftizade (February 5) makes the point that Greece must follow Turkey's example and make efforts to find an honourable agreement in Cyprus. To my knowledge the serious efforts on behalf of Turkey for such a solution consist of the following:

1. The invasion of Cyprus in 1974 with the intention as expressed by the then Prime Minister of "restoring the Constitution".
2. Occupation of 40 per cent of the island and expulsion therefrom of one third of the population of Cyprus.
3. Transporting thousands of mainland Turks to the occupied area to boost the Turkish numbers.
4. Declaring the constitution dead and demanding the creation of a federated state with separate administrations.
5. Ignoring all UN resolutions calling for the withdrawal of the invading army and the return of all refugees to their homes.
6. Failing after more than seven years to reduce the size of the occupied area to anywhere near their numerical proportion, which is 18 per cent.
7. Demanding as the price of withdrawal an equal share in any future federal government.

If this is a show of Turkey's good will it would seem that it is only good will towards the minority. It is a *pity* that such good will is not extended to the Kurdish minority in Turkey. They form the same proportion of the total, have absolutely no rights as a community, and hundreds are in jail for daring to say they are Kurds.

Finally Mr Muftizade rebukes *The Times* for not being factual, something with which I must agree. He signs his letter as the representative of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus. To my knowledge no such state is recognized by the UN, this country or any other international organization.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MYLONAS,
6 Burleigh Gardens, N14.
February 6.

Canal responsibility

From Mr John Gagg

Sir, Thank you for mentioning the sorry story of the Stratford-upon-Avon Canal (February 9), revealing that the National Trust is seeking to be rid of its ownership. Many Trust members will feel that it is acting with some irresponsibility. The once-derelict canal was restored in a remarkable voluntary operation in 1964, and taken over by the Trust. Since then it has become a source of pleasure to untold numbers of people, afloat, afoot, and angling, part of a delightful "Avon Ring" of waterways.

The Trust must have been well aware of the likely maintenance costs, and it has never been short of expert voluntary labour. Moreover, fees from boats must have exceeded all forecasts. It is beyond belief, therefore, that it now wishes to discard this unique part of its property. It has many other possessions, some much like others. It has only one canal — this fine route to Stratford. It would be unforgivable to cast it aside, and Trust members and the public alike should resist this unfortunate move.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GAGG,
Shootacre House,
Princes Risborough,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire.
February 11.

The mirror of wit

From Professor J. Gwyn Griffiths

Sir, In his instructive article on the "new Cairo style" under President Mubarak, Christopher Walker (February 5) states that "at the last count, one academic researcher had already noted 216 new anti-Sadat jokes which have been circulating since his death". He adds a suggestion that Mr Mubarak has so far achieved a very low or nil score.

One wonders whether the "jokes test" really provides a good indication. Towards the end of President Nasser's regime I spent a very happy year as guest professor at the University of Cairo, and I recall that there were jokes galore about Nasser. Often their setting was eschatological ("When Nasser reached the Gate of Pearl...") and there were quips relating to his vast authority and ubiquitous presence. During later visits I heard plenty of jokes about Sadat too, although his rule began with a show of greater tolerance.

It is in any case too early to apply the test to President Mubarak. Mr Walker rightly refers to jokes as "a form of political safety valve"; and forthright criticism may not always be prudent. What should also not be forgotten is that Egyptians have a very rich sense of humour which is sometimes given highly sophisticated expression.

Yours sincerely,
J. GWYN GRIFFITHS,
Department of Classics and Ancient History,
University College,
Singleton Park,
Swansea.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 14: Miss Elizabeth Cuthbert had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested her with the Insignia of a Member of the Royal Victorian Order (Fifth Class).

Mr William Baker had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty decorated him with the Royal Victorian Medal (Gold).

Mr Charles Tack had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty decorated him with the Royal Victorian Medal (Silver).

The Duke of Edinburgh, patron and trustee, will preside at a meeting of the trustees of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Buckingham Palace on March 16.

The Prince of Wales, as chairman, will visit Gwent and Mid Glamorgan in connexion with the Prince of Wales Committee on March 3.

The Duke of Edinburgh will visit Trimble Windmill and the new conference centre in Harrogate and will address the conference of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds at York University on March 26.

Princess Anne will attend the 400th anniversary celebrations of the granting of a royal charter to Maidenhead, Berkshire, on March 8.

Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips will attend a livery dinner of the Carmen's Company at the Mansion House on March 9.

A memorial service for Lady Barttwell will be held at St Margaret's, Westminster, on Tuesday, February 23, at noon.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H. R. I. Berridge, RE, and Miss A. M. Woolrych

The engagement is announced between Henry Richard Ian, only son of Mr and Mrs H. A. R. Berridge, of Emsworth, Hampshire, and Amanda Mary, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs R. S. Woolrych, of Warblington, Hampshire.

Lieutenant-Commander T. H. Boycott, RN, and Miss C. H. Holmes

The engagement is announced between Timothy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Boycott, of Brass Sykes, Stokesley, North Yorkshire, and Caroline Henrietta, younger daughter of Mr Peter Holmes, of the Old Rectory, Shotesham All Saints, Norfolk, and the late Mrs Diana Holmes.

Mr N. R. Graham and Miss H. J. F. De Salis

The engagement is announced between Nigel, younger son of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Graham, of Plaster Pitts, Ripon, Yorkshire, and of Henrietta, daughter of Major and Mrs Jerome De Salis, of Bourne House, East Woodhay, Newbury.

Mr A. Hewitt and Miss J. Coles

The engagement is announced between Andrew, youngest son of Mrs C. Hewitt and the late Dr P. Hewitt, of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, and Josephine, only daughter of Mr R. F. C. Coles and the late Mrs A. W. G. Coles, of Lower Hewood Farm, South Chard, Somerset.

Marriages

Rear-Admiral D. E. Macey and Lady Loram

The marriage took place in Easton on Saturday, February 13, between Rear-Admiral David Macey and Lady (Fiona) Loram.

Mr D. H. Neckar and Miss A. V. Napier

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Temple Church between Mr David Neckar, younger son of Mr and Mrs F. Neckar, of Ruislip, Middlesex, and Miss Adele Napier, only daughter of Mr G. Napier and the late Mrs Napier, of Brookmans Park, Hertfordshire. The Master of the Temple Church, Canon Joseph Robinson, officiated and Father Anthony Meredith, SJ, took part in the service.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Juliet and Louise Neckar, Victoria Metcalf and Lindsey Napier. Mr François J. Neckar was best man.

A reception was held at Middle Temple Hall. The honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Bullen, Mr Sidney Walter Gerald, of Northchapel, West Sussex £132,733

Sarah Winifred Campbell, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £69,692 net. After personal bequests of £15,000 she left the residue to the Carmelite Priory, Aylesford, Kent.

Chalker, Miss Dorothy Evelyn, of Bournemouth £211,233

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy

CAPTAINS: C J L Croft, MOD(PE) with DGW(N) as DSWS (in the rank of Cdre whta); J Parry, MOD as DNAO, June 11.

COMMANDERS: D P C Russell, AURORA in Cmd, Sept 1; P L Harrison, CENTURION for duty with DNOR, April 20; C D B Robinson, ARETHUSA in Cmd, June 29; R J Bradshaw, Neptune for duty with CSST for PJT, June 14; C J S Craig, DRYAD as Dep Director in MTS, May 28; R C Swales, MOD with DNAW, April 20; J G G Hunter, MOD with Nav Sec, Feb 5; B C Murray, TAMAR as Bon, July 30; J J Price, MOD with DNOT, March 26; W N Watson, BROADSWORD as SMEO, Aug 20; A E Wilkins, SMEO to FO Portsmouth, April 25; R D Ferguson, Staff of CINCFLEET, Aug 13; P Spender, BRISTOL as WEO, March 19; W F Worsley, Staff of CINCFLEET, Sept 3; R J Preston, NDC13 at NDC Latimer, May 5-Dec 9; J D Wall, WARRIOR with FOSM as FIO, May 4; A W J West, MOD with DN Plans, June 29; R H Farnfield, MOD with DN Plans, Aug 10; J J Blackham, Staff of FOF3 as SOO, May 25; J C W Lock, HERON as Exec Offr, July 6; D R Warren, DRYAD on Staff of MTS, June 25; R A Rowley, MOD with DG Ships, Aug 13; J P Bullard, MOD with DNOR, Aug 13; J H D Burns, MOD with DES(N), Aug 6; R T Lane, Base Educ Offr to FO Portsmouth, Feb 23.

CHAPLAINS: Rev F A Beattie, Staff of FOF5, May 14; Rev C Stewart, NEPTUNE, May 21; Rev R S Worl, DRAKE, May 7; Rev G J Batten, 45 Cdo Gp RM, June 1; Rev E W Jones, DRAKE, June 15; Rev N P H Pond, Staff of FONAC, May 14.

Retirements
VICE-ADMIRALS: Sir Thomas Baird, April 1; Sir Peter Buchanan, April 5.
REAR-ADMIRAL: Sir Leslie Townsend, April 2.
COMMANDER: R G E Howe, April 3.

The Army

COLONELS: D J Budd, MOD as Army Director of NAAFI, Feb 15; L J P Morrish, UKCICC as DD of Plans (Overseas), Feb 15.
LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: D J Corner, RA, UKCICC as SO1, Feb 19; C Geal, RAPC, 3 Armd Div HQ and Sig Regt as Comd Fin, Feb 19; D L Grover, LI, DNBC Centre as SO1, Feb 19; J C G Herring, KINGS, DA Appt, Feb 20; R E Johnson, QARANC, LMMH Aldershot as Matron, Feb 15; C R S Notley, SCOTS DG, HQ BAOR as Chief G3, Feb 15; T L M Porter, RWF, RMCS Shrivenham as SO1, Feb 19; E F Williamson, QOH, RARDE (PE) (AE) as SO1, Feb 19.

Royal Air Force

GROUP CAPTAIN: R J Wilkinson, RAF Quedgeley as OC, Jan 25.
WING COMMANDERS: C G Terry, HQSTC as ME(AD), Feb 15; S L Bugg, HQRAFSC as GT1, Feb 15; T H Bush, RAF St Mawgan as OC EW, Feb 15; D M Allen, 339SU as OC, Feb 15; B P Swalton, CSDE Swanton Morley as OC SS & MS Wg, Feb 15; N J Tidmus, MOD as SS10(RAF), Feb 15; J M Walker, HQSTC as Supply 5, Feb 15; K I Watson, HQ AFNORTH as SO Nuclear, Feb 15; J C Dunn, RAF PMC as PA6(RAF), Feb 15; A Salter, MOD AFD as Ops(SH), Feb 16; D A F Bailey, 2 ATAF as D/CONT BUDFIN Controller, Feb 15; D W Marchant, RAF Akrotiri as SD, Jan 24.

Parliament this week

Commons. Today (2.30): Private Member's motion on defence. Hops Marketing Bill, remaining stages. Debate on report of Select Committee on Procedure (Supply).

Tomorrow (2.30): Motions on rate support grants for England and for Wales.

Wednesday (2.30): Canada Bill, second reading.

Thursday (2.30): Motion on National Health Service (Determination of Regions) Order, Constitution of Health Authorities and Determination of Districts Order.

Friday (9.30): Private Members' Bills: Dogs (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill and Restrictive Trade Practices (Amendment) Bill, second readings.

Select committees. Today: Home Affairs Subcommittee on race relations and immigration. Subject: Immigration from the Indian subcontinent. Witnesses: Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (1).

Education, science and arts. Subject: Science policy. Witnesses: Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development, Central Policy Review Staff (4.30).

Energy. Subject: Combined heat and power. Witnesses: Department of Energy, National Coal Board (4.30).

Treasury and Civil Service. Subject: Budgetary reform. Witnesses: Officials from the Department of the Environment. Officials from the Department of Health and Social Security (4.30).

Foreign Affairs. Subject: Caribbean and Central America: British approach to stability, security and development. Witnesses: Dr A Thorndike, North Staffordshire Polytechnic, Professor A Lowenthal, University College, London (4.45).

Public Accounts. Subject: Road construction units, transfer to consultants. Witness: Sir Peter Baldwin, Permanent Secretary, Department of Transport (4.45).

Tomorrow: Environment. Subject: Private rented housing sector. Witness: Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction (4).

Social Services. Subject: University Grants Committee Cuts and Medical Services. Witnesses: University Grants Committee; University Hospitals Association (4).

Transport. Subject: The proposed transfer of HGV and PSV testing to the private sector. Witnesses: The Road Haulage Assoc.; The Freight Transport Assoc.; Confederation of British Road Passenger Transport, Institution of Professional Civil Servants (4.15).

Wednesday: Scottish Affairs. Subject: Rural road passenger transport and ferries. Witnesses: Highlands and Islands Development Board (10.30).

Industry and Trade. Subject: Rolls-Royce Ltd. Witness: Rolls-Royce Ltd (10.45).

Defence. Subject: Ministry of Defence organisation and procurement. Witnesses: British Aerospace (11).

Home Affairs. Subject: Police complaints procedure. Witnesses: Justice (11).

Transport. Subject: The Channel Link. Witness: Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport (11.15).

Public Accounts. Subject: Non-competitive contracts pricing and post-costing; funding of purchases of defence equipment. Witness: Sir Derek Cooper, Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence (4).

Social Services. Subject: The age of retirement. Witnesses: General and Municipal Workers Union; Iron and Steel Trades Confederation (4).

Transport. Subject: Transportation in London. Witnesses: Greater London Council (4.15).

Treasury and Civil Service. Subject: Efficiency and effectiveness in the Civil Service. Witness: Sir Anthony Rawlinson, Second Permanent Secretary, Treasury (4.15).

Welsh Affairs. Subject: Water in Wales. Witnesses: Confederation of British Industry Wales; National Farmers' Union (4.30).

Thursday: Agriculture. Subject: Horticulture. Witnesses: F. A. & E. Cowper Ltd., Lea Valley Growers Association (11).

Lords. Today (2.30): Copyright Act 1956 (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Debate on report of Select Committee on Science and Technology on science and government. Debate on tidal power from the Severn estuary.

Tomorrow (2.30): Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, second reading. Junior Hospital Doctors Bill, second reading. Debate on personal savings and housing markets.

Wednesday (2.30): Debate on the need for a better educated working population. Salmon Fisheries (Protection) (Scotland) Bill, second reading. Thursday (3). Leasehold Reform Bill, second reading. Opticians Act 1956 (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

Tomorrow: Select committees. EEC subcommittee A (Finance, Economics and Regional Policy). Evidence from the Department of Industry on developments in regional policy (4).

Subcommittee E (Law). Evidence from Mr Amedee Turner, MEP, on draft directive on trade marks. (4.30).

Thursday: EEC subcommittee F (Energy, Transport, Technology and Research). Evidence from the Institute of Geological Sciences on raw materials (11).

Progress of legislation

Commons. Feb 8: Employment Bill read a second time by 348 votes to 241. Feb 9: Transport (London) Act 1969 (Amendment) Bill read a first time. Transport Bill read a second time by 314 votes to 246. Feb 10: Access to Commons and Open Country Bill read a first time. Harbours (Scotland) Bill read a second time. Feb 11: Southern Water Authority Bill and the British Railways (Liverpool Street Station) Bill both read a second time. Feb 12: Cinematograph Bill was read a second time.

Lords. Feb 8: Agricultural Training Board Bill, Industrial Training Board Bill, Reserve Forces Bill, and Shipbuilding Bill all passed the committee stage. Antiquities Bill read a second time. Feb 9: Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill both read a first time. Transport (Finance) Bill and Shops Bill both read a second time. Feb 10: Taking of Hostages Bill, read a first time. Feb 11: Reserve Forces Bill and Shipbuilding Bill read the third time and passed. Deer (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill and New Towns Bill read a second time.

The closed circuit of converts

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Falling numbers make news; stable or gently rising numbers do not, confirming no doubt the general impression in the Church of England that the media have a stubbornly negative cast of mind. The latest statistical compilation from Church House, Westminster, shows the church in a stable state, losing a little here and gaining a little there; but only if there is an ususual undercurrent to this trend, or lack of trend, is the situation likely to be remarked upon.

The truth appears to be that the Church of England has sufficiently recovered from the disease that was eating at its base in the population, to safeguard its healthy survival for one more generation. But a plateau, while a relief from a slope downwards, is its own kind of trap. A symptom of the syndrome is the recent increase in interest in the idea of "folk religion", meaning, viewed benignly, "folk Anglicanism". It means, in effect, that the Church of England does not pay the majority of the population the compliment of wanting to convert it.

Folk religion is the general "C of E" religiosity of the masses, expressed by respect for a moral code perceived as Christian, comfort in the knowledge that the church is there, irritation if anyone tries to change it, and back-of-the-mind belief in a vague deity-figure who is not very interesting or interested except for a slightly peculiar minority who are "religious". The new fashion is to detect hitherto unseen virtues in it, particularly the raison d'être it gives the professional churchman. This relationship between the "C of E" majority and the Church of England minority is the new form of Establishment, the special tie between church and people that was once seen primarily in legal and constitutional bonds.

It is this that has been challenged by the Partners In Mission report on the church, in which outsiders of various nationalities and persuasions have delivered their verdict that the Church of England is not a success. Their report, which has had much condescension and a little mockery poured on it, is to be debated by the General Synod of the Church of England this week. A plateau is a bad moment for such a debate, for the church was manifestly more alive with fertile ideas when it was under the pressure of falling numbers.

From a fair amount of recent research and theorizing, it seems to have been established that the Church of England, like the Free churches and like the Church of Scotland, has a core of active members that is surrounded, so to speak, by a penumbra, a constituency larger than the core, from which future active members are most likely to be drawn. There is a fair amount of traffic betwen the core and the penumbra, in both directions, as some people decide for whatever reason that "church" is now deserving of their attention, and some decide that it is no longer so. The statistics, by and large, reflect the state of this traffic.

It also appears to be the case that outside the penumbra is the great mass of people, folk religionists or not, for whom the possibility of church membership never seriously arises. The penumbra population has a relationship with the church from previous habit, from family connexion or tradition, or from social class. The rest have had no experience of the church at all.

It is this large remainder who are left untouched by any change in statistical trends, and whose neglect by the church is in various respects criticized by the Partners In Mission consultants.

This is not a peculiarly Anglican problem, and the Roman Catholic Church has a far more severe attack of it. The Free churches, particularly the Baptist and Evangelical churches, do seem to be more successful at making first-generation members, though they may be drawing from someone else's penumbra, particularly from the Church of England's.

A genuine increase in the strength of the church, Anglican or another, would involve a net flow of members into the core from outside the penumbra, the genuine breaking of new ground. There is little live argument about how this could be done, or what sort of church might be able to do it. Folk religion would be a force in opposition to such a development, for it ratifies the present static relationships. And a net flow into the core from beyond the edge of the shadow could well be accompanied by an actual loss, accompanied in turn by annual headlines as the heads are counted and found to be fewer, and as the penumbra expands with former churchgoers repelled by the changes.

Branching out: Mr Sheppy in his apple orchard.

Wine of the apple from the roadside

Richard Sheppy is one of England's smaller cider makers, but last year 40,000 people visited his "château" near Taunton, Somerset, and bought thousands of gallons of acclaimed "wine of the apple" (Craig Seton writes).

Mr Sheppy's father and grandfather produced cider on a small scale in the West Country but it was the huge queue of holidaymakers heading into Devon and Cornwall each summer that persuaded him to turn his farm at Bradford-on-Tone into something approaching a brewery.

"When my father died I closed down the cider part of the farm, but I got fed up with the holidaymakers cluttering up the road outside and decided I had better sell them something", he said.

So he built a hut at the side of the road and sold Sheppy's cider to thousands of tourists, although the construction of a by-pass around Taunton and the opening of the M5 nearly destroyed his growing trade.

Now his business is booming. Word of mouth has ensured an increasing custom , and last week Mr Sheppy's sweet bottled cider came first in a tasting organized by *The Sunday Times Magazine*. Moreover, his full-bodied dry cider came sixth and his medium ninth.

While large cider makers enjoy increasing commercial success, small producers still supply the most traditional brew, according to connoisseurs. There are about ten cider makers of the size of Mr Sheppy's business but they produce less than 5 per cent of the cider made in England.

Despite his success, Mr Sheppy employs only two people full-time. He has about 40 acres of what he considers the best cider apples and presses about 600 tons of Sharps, Bitter Sharps, Bittersweets, Mild Bittersweets and Sweets each year.

Mr Sheppy, who drinks his cider from a wine glass rather than a pint mug, says: "I consider my farm rather like a small château of the type you get in France, where the wines are superb and the only way you will find them is to go to the area.

"I sell directly to my customers on my farm and I see myself as a promoter of quality."

Papal visit 'poses no threats'

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool appealed yesterday for Christian harmony during the Pope's visit to Britain. The Most Rev Derek Worlock, during a civic Mass in the city's Roman Catholic cathedral, spoke of the Pope as a "bridge-builder" and denied that his visit posed any threat.

Liverpool has an active Orange Lodge and opposition to the papal visit is very strong. The lodge has issued a 20-page booklet stating why the Pope should not be welcomed to Britain, and late last year a group of Orangemen held an unofficial service at the Anglican cathedral in protest at the visit.

The archbishop said: "To any who regard the Pope's visit as a threat, let me plead with them that he comes with arms outstretched for peace and reconciliation.

Birthdays today

Miss Claire Bloom, the actress, who is 51.

Sir Max Aitken, 72; Sir Harold Beeley, 73; Sir Stephen Brown, 76; Sir Arthur de la Mare, 68; Mr Justice Drake, 59; Mr Frank Dunlop, 55; Mr Paul Ferris, 53; Sir Douglas Howard, 85; His Honour Christmas Humphreys, 81 Miss Diana Jones, 32 the Earl of Mar and Kellie, 61; Professor Hugh Seton-Watson, 66; Sir Walter Stansfield, 65; Sir Adrian Swire, 50; Sir George Taylor, 78; Dr G. Templeman, 68; Professor Sir Harold Thompson, 74; the Right Rev R. W. Woods, 68.

£30,000 spire

The spire of a village church at Eye, near Peterborough, machine-gunned by a German fighter aircraft diring a daylight attack in 1940, is to be replaced at a cost of £30,000.

Arabian oryx in the wild

Ten Arabian oryx, a species of desert antelope, have become the first of their kind for a decade to roam wild in their native habitat in central Oman, the World Wildlife Fund has announced.

The oryx had until this week been kept in large enclosures

Memorial service

Professor Sir Michael Postan

A memorial service for Professor Sir Michael Postan was held at St Mary the Less, Cambridge, on Saturday. The Dean of Peterhouse officiated. The lesson was read by the Master of Peterhouse and an address was given by the Principal of Jesus College, Oxford. Among those present were:

Lady Cynthia Postan (widow), Mr and Mrs B Postan (son and daughter-in-law), Mr A Postan (son), Miss E and Miss C Postan (granddaughters), Lieutenant-Commander the Hon W A C and Mrs Keppel (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), the Countess of Albemarle, Mr C Keppel, the Earl of Albemarle, the Hon N and Mrs Villiers, Lady Legge-Burke.

The Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University and Mrs Hinsley, the Master of Trinity College and Lady Hodgkin, the Provost of King's College, the Principal of Newnham College, the Master of Churchill College and Lady Hawthorne, the Master of Selwyn College, the Master of Clare College and Mrs Matthews, Lady Dacre of Glanton, Lady Todd, Lord and Lady Kaldor, Professor Sir Edmund Leach, Dame Rosemary Murray, Professor M W Flinn (Economic History Society), Mr R W David and Baroness David, Professor Michael Jaffé (Fitzwilliam Museum), Dr D Piper (Ashmolean Museum), Professor and Mrs J E Meade, Miss C Babington-Smith, Professor and Mrs D C North, Professor G R Elton, Major-General G W D Crookenden, Professor E J and Mrs Kenney, Professor F and Mrs Thistlewhaite, Professor T C Barker, Professor E A Wrigley, Professor Q R D Skinner, Professor J R and Mrs Goody, Professor R D and Mrs Keynes, Professor H C and Mrs Darby, Professor W Ullmann, Professor M J Cowling, Professor D C and Mrs Coleman, Professor C N L Brooke, Professor G and Mrs Clark, Professor R K and Mrs Orr, Professor M Forties.

INCREASED CHESS LEAD FOR SHORT

By Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent

Nigel Short increased his lead in group A of the Western European zonal tournament at Marbella, Spain, by beating Doyle, of Ireland, in quick, workmanlike style in round five on Friday.

He now has four and half points out of five and is followed by two Dutch masters, Van der Wiel and Ligterink, with three points, each having played one game fewer than Short. Ligterink beat Gomez (Andorra) and Van der Wiel had the bye in that round.

Other Group A results: McNab (Scotland) ½, Langeweg (Netherlands) ½; Seret (France) ½, Gallego (Spain) ½; Nunn (England) ½, Fernandez (Spain) ½.

In group B Donner the veteran Dutch grandmaster, shares the lead with Mark Hebden, with four points each, ahead of Mestel, three and half and Stean, three of England. Both of the latter have played one game fewer than the leaders.

Donner made up ground on his English rival by winning his postponed game from round 1 against Blow (Jersey and Guernsey) and by beating Klauner (Luxembourg) in round 5.

Other results: Moulders (Belgium) 1, Sanz (Spain) 0. Mestel 1, Blow 0. Van der Sterren (Netherlands) ½, Hebden ½. Stean ½, I C Jones (Wales) ½. Rivas (Spain) had the bye.

Submarine launch for radio station

The Ministry of Defence has given the BBC permission to use a nuclear submarine to "launch" Radio Furness, in Barrow-in-Furness, next May. The new station will begin its broadcasting from the deck of a £100m submarine at the Barrow shipyard.

Mr Allan Muirhead, a senior producer, who will be in charge of the station, said: "Barrow is the home of Vickers, the only submarine building shipyard in the country, and the main news from the town always seems to be the launch of the latest nuclear sub.

OBITUARY

MISS ANNE SHAW

Personnel management and work study

Baroness Seear writes:

Miss Anne Shaw, CBE, CEng (Mrs J. H. Pirie), who died on February 4 was born in 1904. She was the daughter of David Shaw, killed in action with the 6th Cameronians in 1915, and Helen B. Shaw who, despite the problems of being a widow with two small children, became the Unionist MP for Bothwell, Lanarkshire. Anne, who did not inherit her mother's politics, certainly did inherit the grit and ability of her parents.

She was educated at St Leonard's School, St Andrew's, and at Edinburgh University where she studied mathematics, psychology and social science. In 1927, with a postgraduate scholarship to Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia, she continued her studies in applied psychology and subsequently worked under Lilian Gibreth, a psychologist and management consultant, better known outside industrial circles as the heroine of the film *Cheaper by the Dozen*.

Superbly trained, competent and confident, Anne Shaw returned to the United Kingdom where in 1930 she became Chief Supervisor of Women and Motion Study Investigator at Metropolitan Vickers where she introduced Motion Study — a remarkable achievement for a young woman in the prewar engineering industry.

Her exceptional abilities were recognized outside her own organization and in 1942 she was invited by Sir Stafford Cripps, then Minister of Aircraft Production, to be a member of his small Production Efficiency Board with Special responsibility for personnel management and work methods. As her assistant at that time I often accompanied her to aircraft establishments. As the Woman from the Ministry she was not what managements expected. Their initial shock quickly changed to apprehension, followed again and again by ungrudging admiration and cooperation.

After the war she established her own consultancy business. The Anne Shaw Organisation continuing and expanding the work she had pioneered at Metropolitan Vickers and at the Ministry of Aircraft Production.

She held many professional and public appointments. She was President of the Institute of Personnel Management, a Founder Member of the Motion Study Society, now the Institute of Work Study, and Chairman of the Management Consultants Association. She was a Member of the National Advisory Committee of Industry and Commerce, a Member of the United Kingdom Advisory Council on Education for Management, a Member of the Milk Marketing Board and of the NEDC for the Post Office. She was appointed CBE in 1954.

As if this were not enough for one lifetime, in 1937 she married Jock Pirie, an engineer, who survives her. She had one son and two daughters.

It is hard to believe that this remarkable career started over 50 years ago. In her emphasis on the interrelation between the content and nature of work and employee relations she anticipated much contemporary thinking.

MR VICTOR JORY

Mr Victor Jory, the Canadian-born actor who appeared in dozens of Hollywood films, has died at his home in Santa Monica, California, at the age of 79.

He was educated at the University of California and was a wrestling and boxing champion before turning to the stage in the mid-1920s. He became a popular leading man and also wrote plays, one of which, *Five who were Mad*, was produced in New York.

He made his film debut in *Sailor's Luck* in 1932. And three years later played Oberon in Max Reinhardt's famous version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He was Injun Joe in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and had a supporting part as a Northern opportunist in the post-civil war South in *Gone with the Wind*. But his regular employment for many years was the minor Western, his saturnine features making him a natural villain. Typical was *Canadian Pacific* (1949) in which he tried to blow up Randolph Scott with several hundredweight of dynamite.

He later appeared in more substantial films, including *The Fugitive Kind*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Cheyenne Autumn* and *Papillon* and established virtually a second career as a character actor of depth and maturity. He starred in the television series *Manhunt* between 1959 and 1960 and at the time of his death was working on a new production for the theatre.

GRIGORY SHNEERSON

Grigory Mikhailovich Shneerson the leading Soviet musicologist, pianist and music critic, died in Moscow on February 5 at the age of 80.

Born in Yenisseysk, Siberia, on March 3, 1901, Shneerson read music at the Petrograd Conservatory from 1915 to 1918, when he moved to Moscow, to study the piano under Nikolai Metner and Konstantin Igumnov until 1923. From 1919 to 1930, he worked as pianist and conductor in various Moscow drama theatres. He joined the Secretariat of the International Music Bureau in 1933, and worked as head of the music division of the All-Union Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries from 1942 to 1948, and as foreign editor of *Sovietskaya muzika, (Soviet Music)* from 1948 to 1961.

Shneerson was an authority on western and Chinese music, and a regular visitor to international musical festivals and other events. In 1968, he was elected a corresponding Member of the East German Academy of Arts.

Several of his essays, and publications, such as those on contemporary English music, and Aram Khachaturian, were translated into foreign languages including English, German and Danish. His attitude to serialism, by contrast with that of the orthodox musical establishment, was unusually open-minded and objective.

MR H. S. MORGAN

Mr I. O. Chance writes:

The announcement of H. S. Morgan's death in your obituary column of February 9 at the age of 81 marks the passing of one more of that generation of great American Anglophiles.

Harry, as he was to his many friends, was much in England as a young man; his father owned Wall Hall in Hertfordshire where he used to shoot driven partridges over what subsequently became the Watford by-pass. He was a keen shot and before the last war, every summer for many years enjoyed the grouse at Gannochy, the moor which his father rented.

He was an expert yachtsman, Commodore of the New York Yacht Club serving on many international committees and sailing in many waters.

A member of the Grolier Club he was exceptionally well-read and although always modest had a wide knowledge of pictures and works of art. Until the time of his death he was chairman of the board of trustees of the Pierpont Morgan Library and it is largely due to his inspiring leadership that the library has had so many outstanding bequests and has so many supporters on both sides of the Atlantic. He had many relations in this country and countless friends all over the world. Those who remain will sadly miss him.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

Today is February 15, the day of St Georgia, patron saint of all those who forgot St Valentine's day. The following paid insertions have been received.

MUGWUMPS sorry I couldn't get the cash together in time for Saturday's *Times* — bank backings fell through last moment — undying love Tiggy Winkle.

MUGWUMPS no message in Saturday's *Times* from Tiggy Winkle. Does this mean all is over between you and him? Is there hope for me? Hoochie Coochie.

HOOCHIE COOCHIE you keep out of this. Tiggy Winkle.

DEVASTATED because you didn't get the Valentine message you prayed for on Saturday? Get away from it all in North Africa. Still a few two-year package holidays available from Foreign Legion Tours, tel. Morocco 657834.

ANONYMOUS Valentine cards decoded by expert handwriting authority. A few words are enough for me to give you run-down on sender's character and identity, and to advise on wisdom of pursuing relationship. In complete confidence to Graphic Labs, Slough.

LARGE STOCK of mint condition Valentine cards, unsold due to being mistakenly put on display in condolence section. Huge discounts! Buy now for next February. Box 135.

FATTY MORGANA, belle of the ball, Fatty Morgana, so wide and so tall! I beg of you, Fatty, on bended knees To listen to my impassioned please! — Lugworm.

TIGGY WINKLE I will not be silent. My love for Mugwumps is greater than you can ever know. It is deeper than the National Dept and wider than the Champs Elysee. It is grander than Norman St John-Stevas and finer than *(I'm sorry, you have only paid enough for three similes. — Ed).* Hoochie Coochie.

HOOCHIE COOCHIE you snivelling wretch, Mugwumps wouldn't touch you with a barge pole. I may be unreliable, but she loves me, warts and all. Tiggy Winkle.

TIGGY WINKLE then how come she didn't send you a Valentine message, eh? Hoochie Coochie.

FOR FORTY YEARS, Fatty, I have from afar, Sung songs to you on a small guitar, Under the sun and under the moon, Always a semitone out of tune. — Lugworm.

YOUR Valentine cards cleared away by an expert, also antique furniture, heirlooms etc. Just go out one evening to the theatre and we will be round in a flash. Jim, Dave and Curly.

CAN YOU BE SUED for promises made in a greetings card? Hire the experts to clear up your Valentine problems. Tutt, Graft, Hardly and Binding, solicitors of Bradford.

MUGWUMPS well, come on, woman, make your mind up. Tiggy Winkle, Hoochie Coochie.

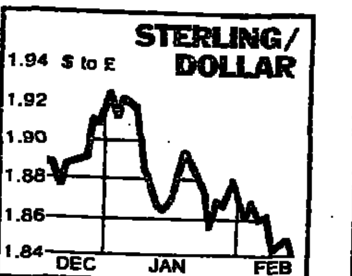
CAN'T STOP FALLING in love? Share your problems with Romantics Anonymous. Use our new Computer Undating service, and find someone totally unsuited. It works!

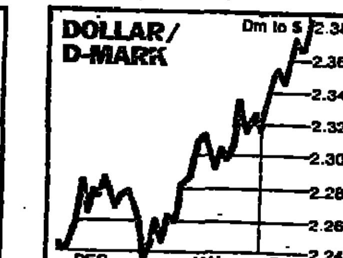
AND ONE OF THE numbers that I have played, Is now number ten in the hit parade, So Fatty Morgana, you beautiful thing, Won't you come a bit closer and hear what I sing? — Lugworm.

LUGWORM you sound my kind of feller. Write to me c/o *The Times* and let's take it from there. Mugwumps.

BUSINESS NEWS

Gains for dollar





The dollar strengthened throughout the world last week as worries grew about United States interest rates. Against the pound it went up 95 points by close on Friday and against the German mark 2.1 pfennigs compared to its close on Friday February 5. Widespread hostility to President Reagan's budget proposals and the government deficits they involve has raised the worries over interest rates, which could rise to keep money supply under control.

£25m Swan Hunter order

Swan Hunter Shipbuilders on the Tyne has won an order worth about £25m to build a 42,000 tonne cargo-container carrier for Lombard Maritime, London, a company owned by Lombard North Central PLC, which is part of the National Westminster Bank Group. On completion in the third quarter of 1983, the vessel will be chartered to Leif Hoegh (UK). It will be built at Wallsend Shipyard.

Textile slump 'is over'

The slump in British textile production is over, stockbrokers Phillips & Drew say in their review of the industry published today. The upturn will be very hesitant during the first half of this year, the review says, but it should gather pace during the second half as consumer demand picks up.

Industry 'coped well in slump'

British industruy coped surprisingly well with the first half of the recession, according to the Industrial Performance Analysis published today by ICC Business Ratios and based on the performance of 12,000 public and private companies during the 3½ years to the end of 1980.

Despite squeezed profits and liquidity problems, "in aggregate terms the results were very encouraging", the report says. Companies reacted quickly to deteriorating trading conditions by cutting output to match demand and cutting costs to cope with cash-flow problems.

The mt disappointing feature of the report is that it disproves analysis generally associated with trade statistics, which often stated that companies were exporting more because of the depressed home market. "Almost all industry sectors reduced their exports in terms of historic values as a percentage of sales", the report says.

Insurance sale

Ellerman Lines, the shipping group, is about to sell its insurance subsidiary to the French insurance group Assurances du Groupe de Paris for an undisclosed amount. The subsidiary, Farnham-based London & Hull Maritime Insurance, controls a number of insurers, including English & Scottish Maritime and General Insurance, Londull Investments, and the underwriting agents Morgomerie & Workman.

Nissan talks

An executive from Nissan the Japanese car company, will be in London this week for talks with the Government on whether to go ahead with a car plant in Britain, according to Japanese Motor Industry sources. Mr Masataka Okuma, vice president of Nissan which makes Datsun cars, will have meetings with government officials including Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for industry, on subsidies to the project.

Freight rates set to soar as exports flag

By Michael Bailey, Shipping Correspondent

Falling British exports to Europe could force freight rates up by over half over the next two years making exports even more difficult.

This is because the massive imbalance - at present a ratio of two to one and getting worse - between cargo eastbound and westbound between Britain and Europe is making the trade hopelessly uneconomic for ferry companies which have been prevented from doing anything about it by the cut-price competition of recent years.

Base rates are now so low that the long-term future of the trade is threatened, operators claim. Concerns such a European Ferries, P & O and Sealink may be forced to agree rises well above the rate of inflation this year and next. Low rates and the imbalance between exports and imports are the main reasons that Sealink was forced to withdraw the proposal for two jumbo ferries for the Harwich route.

Ferry operators have succeeded in getting some rate rises — many went up by about 12 per cent last month — to recoup immediate cost inflation. But they estimate that the base rate has been eroded to such an extent that rises of around 15 per cent this year and next on top of the 10 to 12 per cent for inflation will be needed to get the trade back on a sound footing.

The poor performance of British exports may come as something of a surprise in the light of recent government statements that Britain's balance of trade with Europe is good. But that referred to trade value and took in the fruits of North Sea oil. What concerns ferry operators is the cargo volume in actual freight tons. This has been static or falling while imports continued to rise.

Mr George Hollwey, chairman of the Bell-short-sea container group, said: "The British exporter has been doing magnificently in hanging on to European sales against the drag of a strong pound. But some have found the going too tough and have had to drop out."

Mr Hollwey says this has made the east-west inbalance worse and as ferry companies jostle for the scarce British return cargo to the Continent eastbound rates have fallen to a ridiculously low level.

While exporters cannot be expected to relish the prospect of rises above the rate of inflation they should be warned by what has happened in the trade to Scandanivia, Mr Hollwey says. Tor Line, Swedish Lloyd and Roto have all disappeared, and the trade is dominated by Denmark's DFDS, which put rates up 20 per cent in January.

Soviet debts to West rise by $6,000m

By Peter Norman

The Soviet Union, in the news recently for its forced sale of gold and oil on falling markets, has been moving deeply into debt with Western banks.

Figures issued today by the Bank for International Settlements in Basle show that the Russians increased their net indebtedness with banks in the 15 main Western industrial countries by more than $6,000m (£3,260m) in the first nine months of 1981.

By the end of September, the Soviet Union owed those banks covered by the BIS survey $15,375m while Russia's bank deposits in the West had been run down to $4,512m. Nine months earlier the Soviet Union's borrowing stood at $13,388m and its deposits in Western banks were a healthy $8,568m.

The BIS said that the Soviet Union was the second largest net taker of funds from international banks after Mexico in the nine months under review. Its figures confirming a rapid rise in Soviet debts will come as no surprise to international bankers who have been viewing with growing alarm the increasing amounts of Soviet gold, oil and timber being offered for sale in recent months.

There is little doubt that the Soviet Union has had to draw on its Western assets to help finance its own ailing economy and its increasingly inefficient empire in Eastern Europe. Some observers have also suggested that the rundown in its Western bank deposits could have been prompted by advance knowledge of the military takeover in Poland and fears that the West might move to block the account.

The oil-rich Opec nations have also begun to appear in the BIS statistics as net borrowers from Western banks for the first time since the end of 1978.

In the third-quarter of last year members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries increased their gross new borrowings from the banks by $2,400m or nearly twice $1,300m of borrowings transacted in the second quarter of 1981. At the same time the oil exporters withdrew funds worth $700m from Western banks with the results that they were net takers of funds worth $3,100m in the three months to the end of September.

The BIS attributes the drying up of oil wealth in Western banks to the shrinking of the Opec current account balance of payments surpluses and a shift in the oil countries' investment policies towards longer-term placements.

Energy savings

Energy demand in Britain will grow by only 0.6 per cent each year until 1990, according to a forecast today by Cambridge Econometrics. The figure is less than half the average 1.3 per cent growth rate forecast for the economy as a whole.


Roland Smith: "I am quite relaxed"

Double trouble for Mr Smith

By Philip Robinson

Professor Roland Smith the "man of a thousand boardrooms", could lose two of his string of chairmanships this year.

Lonrho has threatened to sack him as £50,000-a-year, part-time chairman of the House of Fraser Stores Group if its second attempt to gain control succeeds and now he is under attack as chairman of educational publishers E. J. Arnold, where he earns another £11,000 a year.

His entry to Arnold six years ago was on the recommendation of merchant bankers S. G. Warburg, as it was to House of Fraser. He became chairman in 1979 when a row split the family-dominated, small publishing company and saw the dismissal of one of the three Arnold brothers, Martin, as chairman and mangaging director.

Mr Arnold has been trying to get his job back ever since by organizing a consortium to bid for the company, which has plunged from a £500,000 profit to £1.5m loss for the year to January, 1981.

A month ago, Professor Smith told shareholders — the majority of whom are family trusts — of a 200p-a-share bid from Performance Securities, headed by Dr Michael Sinclair. Professor Simth, is a Manchester Business School pundit, is a director of the London Trust group, which formed part of a consortium to buy Dr Sinclair's Allied Investments medical group for £8m after it ran into loss.

Six of the seven Arnold directors supported the bid. But other shareholders claimed that directors ignored other offers, one from Mr Martin Arnold's consortium and the other — worth around 250p a share — from the quoted group, Hestair.

All three bids were well below the net asset value around £10 per share but Arnold has faced difficult trading. Professor Smith said in his annual review last year that shareholders could not expect sustained profit recovery before the early months of 1982. National Westminster had indicated continued, financial support and negotiations were together with overdraft facilities.

A £2.4m sale and leaseback of a stationery factory would reduce bank borrowings, which were then just under £4m.

Ten days ago, Professor Smith said that Dr Sinclair, whose bid was subject to an accountant's investigation, had withdrawn his offer. Mr Arnold's consortium and Hestair are considering the next move, but whichever succeeds in buying the company, it is understood Professor Smith would relinquish the chair.

Professor Smith said: "I am quite relaxed about the situation. We have been going through a rough period along with other companies in the same field. When Dr Sinclair's offer was put to us there were no others on the table".

Gill may receive £500,000 payoff

By Drew Johnson and Philip Robinson

Opposition to Mr Jack Gill's £560,000 golden handshake from Associated Communications Corporation could collapse if Mr Robert Holmes à Court's separate, increased bid for ACC is successful. Bell Group the master company of Mr Holmes à Court, has posted its formal offer document containing two concurrent offers to ACC shareholders.

The second of the two offers emerged this weekend, and shows that as well as making a 20p increase in the bid price, the Bell Group is aiming to obtain outright control of ACC.

Bell's bid matches that of its rival bidder, Heron Corporation, at 340p for voting shares and 85p for the non-voting shares, and is dependent on obtaining 90 per cent of the non voters. If successful, Bell Group's offer would lead to cancellation of ACC's British stock market quotation.

The new bid could convince opposition to Mr Gill's pay off — a consortium of pension funds and insurance companies which controls 13.7 per cent of the non-voting shares — that their best course could be to accept the increased offer and drop their legal objections.

Mr Holmes a'Court said yesterday that acceptances could go as high as 90 per cent and the petitioners could still have a shareholding. But under these circumstances the petition would have to be amended.

The unprecedented double bid is subject to approval of the Takeover Panel. Mr Peter Frazer, a member of the panel, said yesterday that he did not see any problem with it, but the panel would have to consider the terms of the offer in detail before its approval.

He said: "It is a very unusual conception, but there's nothing wrong with that."

Mr Holmes a'Court is seeing the panel today.

The 26-page document offer, which will be lodged with the Stock Exchange, will begin to unveil the very serious financial position facing ACC before Mr Holmes a'Court made his first offer.

The second bid is said to be designed to give shareholders the maxium leeway. The higher bid will be closed to shareholders before the first offer itself closes.

Shareholders will now be faced the options of taking 85p per share, the 65p offer, or leaving their money in the company under the management of Mr Holmes a'Court. If they choose to do that the non-voting shares will be enfranchized.

Heron is scheduled to make an appearance in the Appeals Court today in an attempt to overrule the irrevocable acceptances of Bell's initial offer by 66 per cent of the voting shareholders. But the new Bell bid may force a rethink. Heron's directors were in close consultations with their advisers, Barclays Merchant Bank, all day. A spokesman for the bank said late yesterday that the company's position was still being considered.


Holmes à Court: new offer

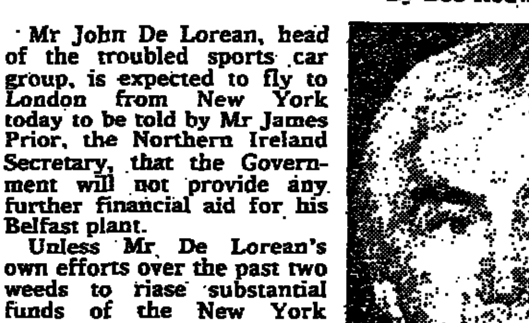
Fears grow for De Lorean

By Bob Rodwell, Belfast

Mr John De Lorean, head of the troubled sports car group, is expected to fly to London from New York today to be told by Mr James Prior, the Northern Ireland Secretary, that the Government will not provide any further financial aid for his Belfast plant.

Unless Mr De Lorean's own efforts over the past two weeds to riase substantial funds of the New York market were successful — and there are no signs of that — receivers are likely to be sent in to the Belfast factory this week.

Over the weekend at his Suffolk farm, Mr Prior has been studying a gloomy report from accountants Coopers and Lybrand and receiver Sir Kenneth Cork on De Lorean's viability. The report is said to show that the company had liabilities of more than £30m over and above its indebtedness to the Government and without an immediate and very substantial injection of new money it can no longer continue to trade. The report, handed to Mr Prior on Friday night, did not recommend the Government to provide the extra.




Mr De Lorean: no cash from Mr Prior

Last Friday 1,100 of the company's Belfast workers were made redundant and closure will result in the loss of the remaining 1,500 jobs.

As many as 4,000 other jobs are also at risk in other Ulster and mainland companies which have been providing components and services to De Lorean. Chief among these are GKN's Bilston division which makes the chassis, Barrett Engineering of Abingdon, Oxfordshire, which survived the closure of MG cars by switching to component producton for the Belfast factory, and the Northampton-based Chamberlain-Phipps group which established its Belfast subsidiary specifically to supply De Lorean with seats and interior trim.

Mr Richard Gordon, regional director of the Confederation of British Industry in Northern Ireland, called last night for the Government to continue supporting De Lorean. Havind taken the decision to back a high-risk project and put up venture, capital, it should live with the consequences of that decision, he said.

For Ulster's Alliance Party Mr Sean Neesan contrasted the treatment being handed out to Belfast car workers with those at British Leyland whose employment had been protected with hundreds of millions of pounds from public funds.

Mr George Clark, official of the Northern Ireland branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said yesterday that the unions had known about the company's debts of around £30m for several weeks.

Leyland strike talks to hear 'alternative'

By Clive Cookson

The Management of Leyland Vehicles, BL's truck and bus subsidiary, tofay meets unions representing 12,000 strikers who have shut down the factories at Leyland, Lancashire, and Bathgate, West Lothian, for four weeks.

Both sides acknowledge that this week will be critical for the future of Leyland Vehicles and its 18,000 employees. The management had warned that BL will have to wind up truck and bus manufacturing permanently unless the 13 unions quickly end their strikeover the company's plan to make 4,100 workers redundant.

In response, the union negotiators will give the management a 44-page report, *Leyland Vehicles — The Workers' Alternative*, which proposed the withdrawal of all redundancies as the basis for a return to work.

The Leyland strike committee's "alternative strategy" calls on the company to make more components in-house, and to scrap plans to buy more engines, gears and axles from outside suppliers in "blatant disregard" of quality and cost. The unions want additional investment, including a new £30m foundry, to mass-produce lightweight engines and complete re-equipment in machine tools.

Leyland Vehicles was losing £2m a week before the strike started, because of the slump in the British market. Demand for lorries over 3.5 tons — the sector on which the company is most dependent — has fallen by half over the past 18 months and is now running at no more than 40,000 trucks a year.

However, the unions do not accept the company's pessimism about the prospects for a significant upturn in demand and output. They quote a prediction from the Economist Intelligence Unit that commercial vehicle production in the United Kingdom will increase by 28 per cent in 1982.

Pressure on both sides to settle the dispute increased over the weekend after J. C. Banford switched from Leyland to Perkins as the main supplier of diesel engines for its earthmoving equipment.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Profit leap for Lloyds

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 570.5
FT Gilts 65.04
FT All-shared 327.11
Bargains 19,021
(Friday's close)

Lloyds Bank gets the reporting season for the big four clearing banks under way with its finals on Friday and it is expected to show a substantial leap in profits from last year's pre-tax £289.9m. Analysts' estimates range from £355m to £382m for this, the third largest of the big banks.

Preliminary results from Lloyds Bank International, a wholly-owned subsidiary, were considerably better than expected. Pre-tax profits were 87 per cent ahead in the year to September at £120.6m.

These results benefited from exchange rate movements and other exceptional items but were in sharp contrast to the performance of other international banks faced with fierce competition and reduced margins. Lloyds, however, has obtained most of the benefit from the lower sterling-/dollar rate and analysts except to see little further growth in 1982.

The quality of earnings in the bank sector as a whole is improving. There is the prospect of another reasonable pay settlement at the beginning of April which is unlikely to exceed 10 per cent, and the overseas and diversified interests are continuing to make progress.

Should the economy begin to move ahead after the Budget, there will be the prospect that demand for credit from industry and commerce will stay strong for the rest of the year.

What has been notable is that the Monopolies Commission rejection of both bids for the Royal Bank of Scotland has not hit share prices as brokers predicted and the Lloyds price is within a couple of pence of its 1981/2 high.

Analysts see the performance of Barclays and NatWest for the coming year as likely to be more impressive than other banks, primarily due to a more marked reduction in bad debt provision and a more significant success in mortgage lending. Profits will rise in line with Lloyds' whose dividend per share for the year is expected to rise from 24.4p to around 28.6p.

Half-year figures from agriculture and food group Dalgety, due on Tuesday, are expected to show a good rise in pre-tax profits after the 23 per cent jump in the last full year from £33.4m to a record £41.2m.

GARETH DAVID

ECONOMIC VIEW

Today: Industrial production figures for December are likely to show a fall in output, with manufacturing particularly hard hit. The drop was made worse by bad weather, but coming after a similar decline in November it suggests that recovery faltered late last year.

That will not dent Government confidence that recovery is now firmly under way: a slight dip round about Christmas was always expected.

But it will give extra determination to the Engineering Employers Federation, who meet Mr Leon Brittan, the Treasury's Chief Secretary, to press for aid for businesses in the Budget.

The EEF are calling for a cut in the National Insurance Surcharge and changes in public spending.

In Brussels, European Finance Ministers are holding a meeting at which they may review world interest rates and prospects for the European Monetary System.

WEDNESDAY: Average earnings figures are expected to show a rise of between ½ and 1 per cent in December, continuing the downward trend in pay settlements over the past two years.

The average earnings index is still boosted by settlements made late in 1980. According to the Confederation of British Industry, settlements are now running just below 7 per cent.

THURSDAY: Detailed estimates of the money supply and bank lending are due, confirming recent estimates that the money supply grew by 1½ to 1¾ per cent in banking in January. Private bank lending has been buoyant.

FRIDAY: The first estimate for the country's total output, the gross domestic product, is published. This rose in the third quarter of 1981 after two years of decline.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY: **Interims:** — Apex Properties, F Copson, Equipu, G M Firth, Roan Consolidated
Finals: — Bank Leumi (UK), Drake and Scull, Scottish Eastern Investment, Temple Bar Investment, W Coast and Texas Regional Investment Trust.
TOMORROW: **Interims** — Dalgety, Parkfield Foundries.
Finals: — Pentlan Investment.
WEDNESDAY: **Interims:** — United Real Property Trust.
Finals: — Birmid Qualcast, Copenhagen Handlesbank, Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust, Gillett Bros. Discount Co.
THURSDAY Interims: — Consolidated Plantations Berhad, William Ransom, Reliance Knit.
Finals: — Adams and Gibbon, Goode, Durrant and Murray Group, Metal Bulletin, Newbold and Burton Holdings, William Whittingham.
FRIDAY: **Interim:** — Throgmorton Secured Growth.
Finals: — Kennedy Brooks, Lloyds Bank, Phoenix Mining and Finance, Romney Trust, Tace, Watsham's.

DIARY

Today: Leyland vehicles unions discuss redundancies dispute. EEC finance ministers meeting, Brussels.
Tuesday: Resumed meeting of shareholders of Associated Communications Corporation, London. British Railways board meets, London.
Wednesday: CBI Council meeting, London. Personality Milkmen of the Year, National Dairy Centre, London.
Thursday: Aslef railway strike. London Transport Trade Union Defence committee announces campaign against fare rises.
Friday: TUC youth conference, Congress House, London.

Threat to 600 jobs and the future of design

Pall over British fabric printing

By Rupert Morris

The fabric printing industry in Britain once world famous for producing Liberty prints and other well loved designs, is on the point of dying. Desperate efforts will be made this week to save the jobs of 600 workers who are to be made redundant within a few months at Tootal's factory at Strines, near Manchester. The closure was announced last month but only now are its implications becoming clear.

The Strines factory is the last major fabric printing works in Britain and although many of the large stores now get printing done abroad some small clothes designers are in despair.

"I have no idea where we can go now", Miss Jackie Staples, of Jake Dress Designers and Manufacturers of Mayfair, said. "There is no comparable print studio in the country." Miss Susan Collier, of Collier Campell international fabric designers and converters, was even more distraught. "I think the most awful thing is the lack of Englishness. There won't be a domestic industry to suport English designers in the future. There is an intimacy between disigners, weavers and printers. If you cannot get designs printed in this country it will be uneconomic to have fabrics woven here so more weavers could go out of business. We will be putting a block on designs. In the end the British consumer will be the loser."

Collier Campbell has most of its designs printed at the Strines works. Now the work will have to be done abroad. The closure of Strines has been expected for a year or more. Tootal blamed the continuing decline in demand for printed fabrics, erosion of profit margins and growing imports of fabric

A single shift was introduced at Strines two years ago with 260 redundancies in administration staff. But the losses continued. Tootal unions and management meet again tomorrow but with little hope of averting the closure.

Mr Brian Leach, regional officer of the National Union of Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers, said: "Our proposals to run the factory on the commission printing basis have been rejected out of hand. But Strines has skills that do not exist anywhere else in the country and there is still a market. Since the closure has been announced, there have been orders for several million metres of material — enough to take them through till June, at a time when trade would be normally slack."

"The demand for printed fabrics has dropped about 80 per cent since 1978", says Mr Roy Walker, Liberty's chief print buyer. "The fashion is for plain fabrics now. It will take us a while to find other sources to do our printing. Strines does about half of it — about two million metres a year. We just feel sad that another British industry is biting the dust. We will have to try France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria or Japan, Hongkong and the United States, in that order."

Mr Peter Sartain, of Jaeger, was the most philosophical of Tootal's customers. "It is a shame of course", he said, "but we had problems with quality at Strines and although we supported them as far as we dared we were down to having only one design printed there. We get most of our printing done in Switzerland which is a bit more expensive but more reliable."

Consortium planned for chip credit cards

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

A consortium headed by the British Technology Group and the National Physical Laboratory is being formed to develop the commercial applications of personal microchop cards.

The cards, similar in size and shape to a credit card, contain a programmable microcomputer. The technology is already being developed by Philips for use in the French market. Anong the 12 British companies which have expressed an interest in joining the consortium are Ferranti, Marconi, British Telecom and National Giro.

The partnership, to be called the Tokens and Transactions Control Consortium (TTCC), will draw on research into data security developed at the National Physical Laboratory at Teddington and the business applications highlighted by the National Research Development Corporation.

The plastic card is extremely versatile and can be used as a security key for opening a door and in a range of applicationswhich extends to electronic banking.

The card will employ the latest anti-fraud coding techniques and when inserted into a computerised slot machine, could be used to activate a range of consumer transactions.

The Philips device, which harnesses the same technology, has been developed in co-operation with the scientists at the Laboratories d'Electronique et Physique Appliquee at Limeil—Brevannes in France. The card contains two microchips — one which acts as a processor and the other as a memory. A magnetic strip for identification can be programmed to contain information about the user and if necessary can have a photograph on the front.

The British project will develop along similar lines to that of Philips.

MANAGEMENT

Nail-biting over Polish debts

Poland's 500 or so Western bank creditors should know this week whether the agreement rescheduling around $2,400m of debt, due last year can be signed at last.

The Bank Handlowy, of Warsaw, is due to pay today the last of the $500m in interest and principal originally promised by the end of last year as a condition for rescheduling the bulk of what Poland should have paid its creditor banks during 1981.

There is bound to be some last-minute nail-biting in bank board rooms for at least another 24 hours because today is a bank holiday in the United States. But late last week, bankers in Europe appeared confident that the Poles would meet their deadline and plans were already being made to hold the signing ceremony in the headquarters of the Dresdner Bank in Frankfurt on March 4.

The debt rescheduling, assuming that it does happen will mark a new chapter in international banking history.

The large international banks making up the "taskforce" of Poland's creditor institutions will be able to congratulate themselves on having held a diverse and potentially unruly mob of banks in line over months of difficult negotiation, thus heading off the unknown perils of having the country declared in default.

But the time for celebration will be short. Having settled last year's debt, the immediate question will be what to do with the Polish debt falling due this year and every year until the end of the 1980s.

Poland, on its own admission, owes $26,500m to the West. Rather less than half of this is owed to Western governments while $14,230m are owed, according to the bank for international settlements, to banks in Western industrial countries.

An estimated $4,700m of debt are due this year, of which roughly $2,500m are owed to Western governments and the rest to banks. Poland has no chance of servicing and paying back the debt it owes this year and under normal circumstances would be seeking further credits from the West by now.

But the military takeover in Warsaw two months ago has changed dramatically for the worse the Polish debt problem, and with the rescheduling of the 1981 debt out of the way, the banks will be back in the frontline between East and West.

The banks want to continue the rescheduling process as an orderly restructuring of Polish debt banishes the danger of default and enables them to keep balance sheet losses on their lending to the Poles to a minimum.

Last year, the banks took their cue from Western governments and began negotiating with the Poles after the official debt was successfully rescheduled in April.

There is no such handy precedent this year. The talks on rescheduling the official debt are suspended and at least some of the creditor countries that are members of Nato look on the suspension as a sanction against the eastern block.

In the United States, political pressure is building up to have Poland declared in default as a way of accelerating the economic crisis in the Soviet Union and its European satellites.

Some neutral countries, like Austria, which are at present grouped among the Western creditor nations, are known to be unhappy at the turn of events and have hinted that they may negotiate to reschedule their 1982 debt unilaterally with the Poles.

A small neutral country could probably restructure its 1982 Polish debt. Whether a diverse group of 500 banks could do the same in a hostile political climate must be open to doubt.

Peter Norman

Steel Phoenix fails to rise

Phoenix Two, one of a pair and may be even a trio of the legendary fabulous birds, which the Government hoped would emerge from the British steel industry has failed to take wing.

After months of desultory negotiation directed towards creation of a jointly-owned company to rationalize their respective interests in engineering steels, the British Steel Corportion and GKN, the country's largest independent steel-maker, have broken off talks — for the present.

The brief announcement that the pair had not found it possible to identify (ie, agree) a viable basis on which to structure a joint venture, came as no real surprise.

But their failure is a blow to Government aspirations to accelerate privatization; to Mr Ian MacGegor, the BSC's chairman; and to European efforts to secure long-overdue retrenchment in product areas suffering from chronic over-capacity, and thus hindering strategies designed to remove the red ink from steel companies' balance sheets.

This assortment of engineering steels business has therefore been under the BSC's wing for some time, supplementing the corporation's own engineering steels facilities, largely concentrated in the Sheffield area.

It appears that the protracted talks with GKN (the largest United Kingdom user of BSC steel) finally foundered on disagreements of a technical nature and hence over the final ownership profile.

Central to the discussions was the balance to be struck in the proposed new company of facilities for producing the particular steels, and amounting essentially to the proportion to be produced by the continuous casting route as against billet derived steel.

Ministers will be unhappy a deal has not been done. So too will Mr MacGregor. Among the criteria being used to measure the final size of this controversial £1.8m retrospective transfer payment to his former employers at Lazard Freres, is the extent to which the corporation is "privatized" during his three-year tenure as chairman.

Mr MacGregor and his banker — the Government — have other pressing problems. There is the impact of the rail strike, and the severe weather last month, on the corporation's finances, which are overlaid by the wider problems of Amerian action to curb steel imports and the fragile efforts by the EEC Commission to boost steel prices at a time of continuing weak damand.

Prospects of BSC striking a financial break-even by the year end are receding fast.

Meamwhile, none doubt that rationalization in engineering steels will be necessary. Current demand is running at slightly over 2 million tonnes a year, well below existing capacity.

BSC and GKN spoke of their intention to review periodically Phoenix. Two possibilities in the light of changing conditions. Amid growing uncertainty, that review will certainly be earlier than the reputed life-circle of the Phoenix, which, legend has it, burned itself every 500 years or so before rising from the ashes.

The first Phoenix, Allied Steel and Wire, owned 50-50 by BSC and GKN, was born almost a year ago to rationalize their overlapping interests in the production of wire rod and bars.

The second, which was actively encouraged by Industry Department ministers and their officials, was to have been a similar creature charged with the same task in engineering steels.

But creation of Phoenix Two was always destined to be a much more difficult task, not least because other interests were to have been involved.

Peter Hill

At last CCA finds some fans

Vitriolic attacks on SSAP 16, the current cost accounting standard, have almost come to be regarded as a virility symbol among chairmen of medium-sized companies.

After just over a year in existence, the standard has withstood a mixture of apathy, severe criticism and even the threat of a grass-roots accountants revolt.

The latest information from the accounting standards committee, which oversees SSAP 16's progress, shows that compliance among listed companies is about 85 per cent. Unfortunately for these staunch advocates of current cost accounting, this is not an indication that most quoted companies think SSAP 16 is a wonderful invention.

Inclusion of CCA information is required under the Stock Exchange listing agreement. Failure to provide it also leads to an auditor's note of implicit disapproval, but various companies have bucked the accountant's line.

None of these are giant companies, but some are well-known names, including Lesney Products, Stone Platt Industries and Allied Plant Group. Some, such as Allied, have stated the time and money involved was not considered as justified; others erring on the side of caution, promise CCA information in the next set of annual accounts.

The accounting standard setters charge that, with some honourable exceptions, the City has not yet accepted that SSAP 16 is really worthwhile. The argument runs that since the City is dominated by financial salesmen, any technique which reduces company performance is bound to be unpopular.

It is probably a legitimate counter criticism that CCA is disliked because accountants have failed to explain it properly. For among the charges that CCA is too subjective, too volatile or irrelevant as far as tax is concerned is the criticism that it is to hard to understand.

A new report from Peat Marwick Mitchell, the international firm of chartered accountants, argues that acceptance of CCA is greatest among the top British companies. It says five out of the 10 top industrial companies, BP, Ford, Imperial group, ICI and Unilever now use CCA information for management account purposes.

But it is also reasonable to point out that many big companies are well supplied with internal accounting research departments, which can minimise the teething difficulties smaller companies might find.

The benefits of using CCA are tangible: rates of return based on current cost principles can highlight the case for closing down or cutting back in operations with inadequate rates of return; CCA in the costing process can lead businesses away from under-pricing, and perhaps most important of all, CCA gives a real measure of how much of a company's capital base is paid out in dividends.

The Peat's survey shows that on latest figures about 40 per cent of British companies pay dividends uncovered by earnings. A big influence could be the consideration of CCA for tax purposes in the Government's recent Green Paper.

Though this was considered very "green", and is not expected to lead to any tax changes in the lifetime of the present Parliament, the problem of tax and CCA is important.

Drew Johnston

CAPITAL MARKETS

Fresh start on money sums as oil prices fall

Lots of sums are having to be redone in Wall Street and London as a result of the fall in oil prices. Even last December, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development was forecasting a cut in the Opec oil surplus from last year's $60,000m to $35,000m for 1982.

Now the level of oil prices is all over the place. While Saudi Arabia's Shaikh Yamani remains adamant that the $34 for Arabian light oil will hold through this year, other Opec producers are doing deals that one way or another will result in their being paid much less than official prices. So, since that OECD figure was calculated before pressure mounted on the spot oil market, the take-home pay for many of the oil producers is going to shrink.

International capital markets are by now wary of being too definite on energy costs and prices. Saudi Arabia's domestic political situation is still fragile, Iran and Iraq are still fighting. But disappearance of the Opec surpluses will mean that a number of country's credit ratings will be very much healthier, at the expense of Opec producers.

Principle gainers will by Japan, Germany and France and other major industrialized nations who are dependent for vast quantities of their energy on imported oil

A loser will be Britain — it has been this country's petro-currency status which has helped to attract overseas investment. Others will include Canada and Mexico, both of whom are already out of favour with the international capital markets because they have such insatiable appetites for money.

Everyone benefits in one way — the soaring inflation rates of recent years has largely been the fault of the higher energy costs caused by Opec's successful cartel. Since so many governments are monetarist in their economic philosophy, lower inflation rates should soon find their way through to lower interest rates.

No one is suggesting that a fall from around $34 to, say, $30 dollars a barrel is going to take the problem of high energy costs away entirely. But it is a large enough percentage change to put a different complexion on international capital markets in 1982

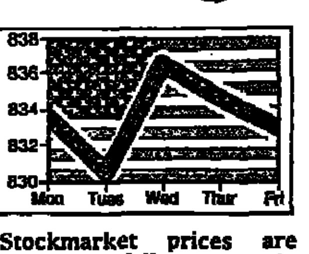
Looking at investment in the domestic United States bond markets, the firm Salomon Brothers is advising a cautious stance. Richard Johannesen, Jr., commenting on the group's bond market research publication Relative Values in the 1982 Bond Market, stresses the need to stick with top-quality names. Prudence and caution are the watch words. The publication's opening words are: "In the fixed-income markets volatility will continue to be the hallmark".

Given the uncertain conditions they foresee, Mr Johannesen also points to the merits of staying with the short-end of the market.

Sally White

MARKETS ROUND-UP

Budget fears hit prices



Stockmarket prices are expected to fall once again this week in response to rising interest rates and concern over the forecast of a record deficit in President Reagan's budget.

Last week saw prices drop for the second week in a row. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 17.22 points to 833.81, following a drop of 20 points the week before.

Much of the blame for the drop went to shock over the $91,500m (about £5,000m) deficit projected in Mr Reagan's budget at the beginning of the week.

Wall Street is worried that such a deficit could depress investors' confidence and further raise interest rates.

High interest rates puts pressure on stock prices because they provide high yields in competing investment such as Treasury Bills, and long-term government bonds as well as popular money market funds.

Concern over interest rates has been apparent in the markets for the past eight out of ten Mondays. On each of those days stock prices have fallen in response to disappointing news concerning the basic money supply in the United States.

The state of the money supply is linked with interest rates because investors believe that if it grows too quickly the Federal Reserve will tighten credit and thereby push up interest rates.

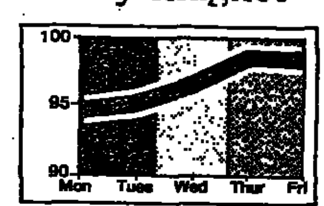
Recently, the money supply has been growing far more quickly than anyone had expected. Last Friday the figures were once again disappointing, showing a gain of $2,300m in the latest reporting week.

As a result, prices are expected to drop tomorrow when the markets reopen after the Washington birthday holiday today.

In fact, many experts believe that continuing concern over interest rates and the deficits will keep the stockmarket weak for some time to come. Some analysts are predicting that the Dow will drop to somewhere between 720 and 760 in the first half of this month.

BRUSSELS

Money magnet



Brussels continues to be the star of the European bourses as the Government's pro-business policies attract investors from both home and abroad.

The Belgian shares index advanced 4.13 points over the past week to close at 98.22, showing a gain of more than 30 per cent in the two months since the formation of Mr Wilfried Marten's Centre-Right coalition.

Last week, the market shrugged off Monday's anti-government general strike in the French-speaking south of the country. It also took heart from the Government's decision to let Cockerill-Yards, Belgium's second-biggest shipbuilder, go bankrupt after workers had refused to accept salary cuts, and the market finished the week looking strong despite profit-taking on Friday.

Holding companies, electricals and Petrofina were actively traded.

The Belgian Bourse, Star of Europe

HONGKONG

Slide halted



The Hang Seng index gained ground on Friday to close at 1270 after nine consecutive days of decline. The much-needed boost to confidence was the rumour, confirmed after trading, that Hongkong Land had tendered $HK4,755m (£436m) for the 140,000 sq ft Connaught Two site.

The price was above market expectations although the two rival tenders, from groups led by Cheung Kong and Sun Hung Kai, are said to have been considerably less.

It is doubtful if the deal will turn sentiment, which remains bearish. The market shed 95 points last week, with institutions showing no signs of buying. Some leading property stocks have lost up to 20 per cent of their market value in two weeks.

Bears cite softening property prices, United States interset rates, a weak local currency and disturbing news from China concerning the position of Deng Xiaoping, the vice-chairman. Ignored during last year's bull market, China-watching is once again fashionable among brokers.

FRANKFURT

Dollar shines

The strong dollar is about the only thing putting a shine on West Germany's lacklustre stock exchanges.

Share prices moved erratically last week, supported mainly by foreign buying of companies such as those in engineering which are likely to profit on export markets from a weak Deutsch mark.

While the Government's job creation plans continued to meet a generally critical reaction, motors profited from the proposed scheme to give a 10 per cent subsidy to companies increasing their investments this year.

Lufthansa was strong early in the week following the Laker collapse, on the principle that its an ill wind that blows nobody any good.

Banks perked up briefly on Thursday on expectations that the Poles will be able to meet the conditions for rescheduling their 1981 commercial bank debt.

After trading lower, the Commerzbank index ended the week little changed at 697.4.

JOHANNESBURG

Wind of change

Retailing has again been the main feature of activity on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and although no more takeover bids have materialized heavy dealing in the shares continues.

The rumour that the battle for control lead by South African Breweries is not over persist and in three days 174,000 of London-quoted Greaterman's Stores "A" shares were traded, pushing the price up from 1160 cents to 1220 cents.

The finance minister, Mr Owen Horwood, produced a mini-Budget which clearly signalled, if any doubts remained, that South Africa's gold-led boom is over and that it is now fully exposed to the chill winds of international recession. He announced an increase in general sales tax (equivalent to VAT) to raise revenue to meet a growing Government deficit and gave all indications that his main Budget, late in March, will be savage.

AUSTRALIA

Rising profits

545
540
535
530
525
Mon Tues Wed Thur Fri

Full advantage of the takeover boom last year was taken by Matine, the property and equity investment company. Selling into the top end of the bull market brought windfall profits and a sharp increase in interest income.

Consolidated pretax profit rose from A$243,409 to A$315,456 in the six months to December 31. But higher interest income resulted in a sharp increase in the tax rate from 3.8 per cent to 9.1 per cent. This whittled the profit increase to 22.5 per cent from A$234,138 to A$286,772.

Southgate Investments lifted profit 14.1 per cent from A$184,000 to A$210,000 in the six months to December 1. The boost outstripped turnover growth, which rose 6.4 per cent from A$1.67m to A$1.99m.

Meanwhile in the food industry there is considerable stock exchange interest in Elders-IXL's intended A$90m takeover of the United Kingdom Wood Hall Trust. This is expected to be just the beginning of an acquisitive period by the newly-merged Australian Pastoral and Food Group.

COMMODITIES

Markets multiply in tricky times

Dispatches from Hongkong have aroused my curiousity. Last week it was reported that the Hongkong Commodity Exchange was considering renovation of its gold futures contract and introduction of platinium and financial futures contracts. Why, I wondered, do commodity markets multiply in these tricky times when other markets and businesses fall victim to the depression?

Hongkong, of course, is not the only one. London should see its own gold and financial futures markets come to life this year. And at the beginning of next week the European Options Exchange, based in Amsterdam, will start a transatlantic gold options market in conjunction with the Montreal Stock Exchange.

Other markets are under study in Bahrain, Sydney, Singapore, New York, and all points East.

What set me thinking is that not so long ago, the fate of commodity markets was intimately bound up with that of world trade. If activity in the international economy declined, so did market turnover and prices. And that relationship still holds good for traditional markets. Metals and agricultural commodities alike are, in the main, suffering from low prices and quiescent volume.

Despite the suggestion in Rudolf Wolff's *Annual Metal Review 1981* that copper could go to £1,400 a tonne this year, three-months high-grade metal ended the week in London at £895.50, a low real price. Allowing for the vagaries of the agricultural cycle, softs are generally doing no better.

So why are new markets opening in the midst of the worst depression for a generation? The answer, I think, is that the new markets are designed to cope with new circumstances. These markets have several common features: they are futures markets in financial instruments and precious metals. Oil is the chief exception but the petroleum markets are also futures markets and oil is not called "black gold" out of whimsy.

Such contracts are the natural response to stagflation. Stagnation is bad for natural resources — even oil is feeling the squeeze — while inflation prompts a switch of resources into financial assets. Holders of capital need to maintain income and asset values in face of inflation, while users of money such as banks and financial institutions want to hedge. Currency instability has been a further incentive to financial markets.

Establishing financial markets around the world has been aided significantly by the dramatic and continuing improvements in communications technology. Speed is critical to succes in volatile and fast-moving markets for which no delivery of physical materials is required. Only paper obligations change hands. This, in turn, has encouraged new markets in places strategically situated through time zones: the gold market trades around the world from Honkong to London to New York and back again. The resilient or insomniac can now cram a good many hours trading into a single day.

It is interesting in this context that Mr Peter Scales, chairman of the Hongkong Commodity Exchange, said last week that his model was the formula devised by the London International Financial Futures Exchange.

Michael Prest

Just add Co2 to find more oil

Oil companies in the United States are confident that a pioneering oil recovery technique based on carbon dioxide will prolong the life of some oil fields by as much as 25 years.

The first big commercial application of the technique, which is already being studied as a possible means of extracting more oil from the North Sea, is scheduled to start at the end of this year.

A consortium that includes Texaco, Shell, Comoco, and Atlantic Richfield, is preparing to start construction of a 480-mile pipeline to transport liquid carbon dioxide from west Colorado to its Wasson field in West Texas. The carbon dioxide will then be injected under pressure into the oil reservoir in an effort to "flush out" more of the oil trapped between the pores of the oil bearing rock.

Shell, the consortium's operator, says pilot tests of the process having been so successful it hopes to boost the oil recovery rate from 39% to 52%.

That will increase the amount of oil recovered from 850 million to 1,130 million barrels which is the equivalent to the discovery of a small to medium sized North Sea field.

Total cost of the project is $1,760m (£950m) and the first supplementary oil production is expected to start in early 1984.

Shell estimates there are sufficient natural reserves of carbon dioxide in the Colorado region to support production of an extra 2,000 million barrels of oil in Texas and New Mexico.

Jonathan Davies

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

STRAIGHT DEBT	Price	YTM
Australia 8¾% 1982	99	16.00
ICI 11% 1985	94½	13.57
New Zealand 8⅞% 1985	93½	13.38
Canadair 8⅞% 1985	92½	15.08
Sweden 15¾% 1985	[illegible]	[illegible]
AHDB 12% 1985	95½	14.08
Ford 10% 1984	90½	16.14
Sweden 9⅞% 1984	87½	15.07
GMAC 11% 1984	91	[illegible]
SNCF 12½% 1985	92½	15.20
Royleage 11¾% 1985	90½	15.18
Credit Nationale 13½% 1986	93½	15.62
Eksportfinans 11⅛% '87	87½	15.05
World Bank 10½% 1987	81½	15.48
Amoco UK 13½% 1988	91½	[illegible]
Regpied 11½% 1988	80½	16.72
EIB 12½% 1990	80½	16.06
Anheuser-Busch 11¼% 1990	80½	15.55
United Biscuits 11¼% 1990	75½	16.62
Quebec Hydro 15 1991	84½	[illegible]
Ontario Hydro 15¼% 1991	[illegible]	15.59
Barclays 8¼% 1992	68½	14.50
Hudson's Bay 10 1993	72½	15.12
Dow Chemical 9¾% 1994	72½	14.69
EFC 11% 1995	72½	16.02
ECSC 8¾% 1997	61½	15.58

CONVERTIBLE BONDS	Price	Conv Prem
Alco Standard 9½% 1994	102½	[illegible]
Beatrice 4½% 1992	67½	10.55
Eastman Kodak 4½% 1988	84	15.35
Ford 5% 1988	57½	[illegible]
Galveston-Houston 8% 1994	[illegible]	[illegible]
INA 8% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lear Petroleum 8 1989	[illegible]	[illegible]
J. P. Morgan 4¼ 1987	[illegible]	[illegible]
Revlon 4¾% 1987	77½	20.35
Sperry Rand 4¼ 1988	[illegible]	[illegible]
Warner Lambert 4¼ 1987	70½	[illegible]
Xerox 5% 1988	61	[illegible]

DEUTSCHMARK ISSUES	Price	YTM
O K B 8% 1987	97	9.73
World Bank 7¾% 1988	89½	10.02

FLOATING RATE NOTES	Price	Crrnt Yld
BNP 1985	[illegible]	[illegible]
IBJ 1985	[illegible]	[illegible]
Offshore Mining 1986	[illegible]	[illegible]
Midland 1987	[illegible]	[illegible]
Credit National 1988	[illegible]	[illegible]
CCF 1989	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barclays 1990	[illegible]	[illegible]
BNP 1991	[illegible]	[illegible]
Midland 1992	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chase Manhattan 1993	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nat West 1994	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barclays 1995	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Kidder Peabody Securities Limited

INTER-CITY PEOPLE

SHROPSHIRE
A Porsche off course?

Tenants agreeing to rent units of 30,000 sq ft or more on an industrial estate at Bridgnorth, Shropshire, on the edge of the British motor industry, are being offered a German car — a Porche 924, which retails at about £10,000.

Stewart Hickman, managing director of the agents from the Stanmore industrial estate, tells me that the offer, which is open until July 31, has yet to bring in a firm taker but there are "a number of inquiries."

He sees no incongruity in offering a foreign car to firms taking space on an estate whose principal attraction is said to be that it is only 10 miles from the West Midlands, home of many British motor accessory and components companies.

The reason for choosing the Porsche, Hickman says, is that he happens to be a Porsche fan. He used to have a 924, and now has a 911 SE Sport.

Hickman (Stanmore) are agents for Stanmore Industrial Estate Ltd, an interest of Stewart Hickman's father, Jeff, and in turn a subsidiary of a Bermuda-based company.

● *Blackwells, the Oxford booksellers, are flying their flag upside down and at half-mast until Sir Freddie Laker's airliners are back in the air. Managing director Nigel Blackwell says: "Sir Freddie has saved us a great deal of money — £100,000 — on flying freight abroad."*

EIRE
Irish ayes

Odd, isn't it, that Cosmopolitan, which many people would describe as a sexy magazine for women, should do so well in the officially prudish Irish Republic?

Cosmopolitan this month celebrates its tenth anniversary in Britain, and Dublin-raised Deirdre McSharry (below) her ninth year as editor. However you describe



Cosmopolitan Deirdre McSharry

it, Cosmopolitan, I now learn, sells about 25,000 copies a month in Eire — more than any other Irish title.

Ms McSharry now disputes the "sexy" part of the image, and says that these days only one item in about 50 is about that topic. What is more, she points out that about a quarter of Cosmopolitan's readers are men.

HAMPSHIRE
Spring sprung

Christopher Hartridge, a director of the family firm of soft drinks manufacturers, Hartridge & Sons, tells me that the old artesian well upon which the business was founded is to be reopened.

"The water level dropped and since about 1970 we have used mains water," he told me. "We've now deepened the bore, and we can use it for Hambledon Spring Water.

This is a new line, an attempt both to celebrate the company's centenary this year, and to cash in on the current taste for fizzy table waters like Perrier.

Hartridge & Sons is at Hambledon on the outskirts of Portsmouth, sometimes described as "the cradle of cricket." The firm hopes the cricket commentor and writer, John Arlott, will declare open the well in May.



Hartridge's cricketer logo

● Wilfred Wright, the station manager of the Fawley, Southampton, GEGB plant tells me that he had a surprise when he came up to London last week as a guest at the annual dinner of the Institute of Petroleum. Wright found himself next on the guest list to Wrong, a Mr H. Wrong.

Ross Davies

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Eric Major has been appointed a director of Hodder & Stoughton Holdings, the parent company controlling Hodder & Stoughton's worldwide book publishing business.

Mr John F. Valentine has become chairman of the horticulture division of Fisons. He will also be an associate director of the group.

Mr Anthony B. M. Good has been made vice-chairman of the Guild of Business Travel Agents.

Mr T. O'Hanlon will join the partnership of Mullens & Co from April 8.

INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK

Bailey Morris analyses the man accused of prolonging the world recession with his tight money policies.

The Titan at the Federal Reserve

Sometime this week Paul Adolph Volcker will travel the short distance across town from his Federal Reserve Board offices to meet President Reagan at the White House in a potentially historic confrontation over American monetary policy.

In Washington, the as yet unscheduled meeting, is already being dubbed as "the clash of the Titans".

It is quite clear in everyone's mind that Mr Volcker qualifies as a "Titan" in his own right, able to squeeze the United States money supply at will and make most of the rest of the world contract.

This week's meeting between the independent chairman of the United States Central Bank and Mr Reagan will be only the second since the president took office in January 1981.

The first one last April *reportedly did not go at all* well. A presidential aide who was present says Mr Volcker pointed his finger and "lectured" the president about the potential conflict of his economic programme and the tight money policy the Federal Reserve intended to pursue to reduce inflation.

There was a little of both the teacher and crusader in Mr Volcker that day. Veteran Volcker-watchers expect the same again this week when the Central Bank chairman meets the president on his own ground in the White House Oval Office.

No one really expects Mr Volcker to back down and away from the tight money course he has set for the United States.

Despite mounting political pressure, deepening recession and unemployment, and Mr Reagan's public criticism, Mr Volcker remains convinced his policies are correct and that inflation is still America's number one enemy.

He believes this with a sort of religious fervour.

Last Friday before leaving for a weekend at his Camp David retreat, Mr Reagan defended his programme again, saying it will eventually bring down interest rates but only if the Federal Reserve Board cooperates.

"I think we have to have more cooperation with the Federal Reserve Board with regard to the money supply and a more consistent pattern," Mr Reagan said.

Cooperation, however, is not a term likely to go down well with Mr Volcker.



And since his term does not expire until August 1983, there is very little the president can do but talk.

As chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, an organisation created by Congress in 1913, as separate and independent from the White House, Mr Volker maintains deliberately the distance between the Central Bank and the Administration.

He believes this to be proper and correct, in keeping with the original intent of Congress.

It is also true that Mr Volcker has reservations about certain aspects of Mr Reagan's programme. In recent weeks he has warned repeatedly of the ill effects on the financial markets that Mr Reagan's massive projected deficits will have during the next two years.

Finally, Mr Volcker is unswerving in his battle against infaltion, even if it means high interest rates and high unemployment in the short term. This he made clear in Congressional testimony last week when he released a required, semi-annual report on American monetary policy.

"We have made some headway. This is no time to retreat," he said, in announcing the Central Bank's decision to stay with a tight money policy, allowing only a slight increase in the money supply this year.

'Paul Volcker remains convinced his policies are correct and that inflation is still America's number one enemy. He believes it with a sort of religious fervour'

The chairman of the House Banking Committee was not pleased. "I am told you are one of the most powerful men in the world. Well, don't the powerful think about the poor and the unemployed?" he said.

There were other questions from other disbelieving Democrats and Republicans, who want Mr Volcker to reverse course and allow the bank to pump more money into the banking system in order to hurry along the promised recovery.

"Who is Volcker that he has the right to make policy in a vacuum without regard to the effect on us all", asked an angry Mid-Western Congressman who wanted to remain anonymous.

The same question may well be asked in the weeks ahead in homes across America as the Reagan Administration escalates its attack against Mr Volcker, thus focusing public attention on the role of the Central Bank and its resolute chairman.

At six feet, seven inches, Mr Volcker is hard to overlook in a crowd.

His career spans 30 years in private banking and government in which he has served variously as an officer of the Chase Manhattan Bank and aid to David Rockefeller; Under Secretary of the US Treasury; and President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

He is best known as a brilliant intellect who has presided over the most important American monetary decisions of the postwar period.

It was Mr Volcker, for example, who fashioned the United States position and seved as its principal negotiator during the turbulent early-1970s when the Bretton Woods monetary compact callapsed and the world moved from fixed to floating exchange rates.

Indeed, C Fred Bergsten, a well known economist and former Carter Administration official, credits Mr Volcker with averting a massive breakdown of the international economy in 1973 when he negotiated what is known as the "Volcker agreement" which resulted in a 10 per cent devaluation of the American dollar and a temporary float of the Japanese yen.

This Mr Volcker accomplished through a series of monetary agreements between the United States and his united trading partners which he negotiated in lightning trips to Tokyo, London, Bonn, Paris and Rome.

Still, despite a formidable intellect, a long list of accomplishments, and a reputation as a good grey banker, he is not a colourless or humourless man.

He is seldom seen, for example, without a 20-cent cigar clamped between his teeth even when testifying before Congress. His suits are shiny and he often appears dishevelled.

And several years ago, when invited to a Halloween party by a group of friends in New York, he slapped green body paint on his bald pate, donned emerald green tights and went as the Jolly Green Giant.

It is economics, however, which is "his profession, his passion and his only hobby", said a colleague of Mr Volcker's. He lives simply during the week, working long hours before leaving for a short walk to his appartment near the Federal Reserve building.

On weekends, he boards the shuttle flight to New York where his wife, who suffers from arthritis, still lives.

Because of the pressures, his wife's illness, and the fact that he took a pay cut from $110,000 (£58,981) to $57,000 a year, it has been rumoured that Mr Volcker plans to resign from the Central Bank and return to a private banking job in New York.

But this is not likely at present, in the opinion of his friends and colleagues. They say Mr Volcker believes he must stay put in order to steer the monetary system through what is potentially its most difficult period since the Great Depression.

Mr Volcker's past experience in presiding over what he regarded as the humiliation of the dollar devaluation, has hardened his resolve to stay with the fight against inflation.

In his own words: "The battle against inflation has been fairly joined, and we can see signs of progress. We must carry through until the battle is won."

Frances Williams and John Whitmore explain the issues behind the row in America

Plain man's guide to the US economy

What is wrong?

The United States, like other countries, has not escaped the historically high rates of inflation prevalent over the past few years

The annual inflation rate in the US, as measured by the consumer price index, peaked at 14¾ per cent in early 1980. Since then it has fallen back to just under 9 per cent,

Inflation is not the only worry, however. Although the US economy fared far better than some during the second half of the seventies, its growth rate has been slowing, as has the growth in productivity. After growing at an annual rate of about 4 per cent through the 1960s, gross national product expanded at about 3¼ per cent a year through the 1970s.

Which strategy?

President Reagan came to office committed to a novel approach to the economy called "supply side" economics. This aimed to tackled the problem of low growth and productivity by cutting taxes, particularly for the rich.

The most ardent "supply-siders" have argued that cutting taxes in this way would not lead to any loss of government revenue, at least over the longer term. The extra growth engendered by the tax cuts would mean that additional tax revenues would soon start flowing into government coffers.

But President Reagan did not buy the extreme "supply-side" package. He decided to go for some government spending cuts as well. These were not enough to offset fully the tax cuts, especially since he also wanted to increase defence spending.

To combat inflation, President Reagan supported the tough money policy being pursued by the United States central bank, the Federal Reserve Board, headed by Mr Paul Volcker.

Mr Volcker, however, is not a "supply-sider". He emphasizes the need to restrain the government's budget deficit so that monetary growth can be reduced without unduly high interest rates.

Why the row?

The American economy is in a mess. The recession is deeper and more prolonged than was predicted, and unemployment — going on for 9 per cent — is close to post-war peaks. Making it worse are unprecendentedly high and volatile interest rates, which threaten to stifle economic recovery at birth

Mr Volcker says it is all the administration's fault. It has been deluded by the "supply-siders." The tax cuts, which have not been offset by spending cuts, will increase the budget deficit. In addition, the administration has been far too optimistic in its economic assumptions. Deficits will in fact turn out to be far higher than the administration is predicting. All this means that huge government borrowing needs will drive up interest rates

Meanwhile, Mr Volcker insists that the Fed is determined to keep the lid on the growth of credit to counter inflation.

President Reagan and his Treasury Secretary, Mr Donald Reagan, think differently. They admit the budget deficit is on the high side. But they claim that the cause of cripplingly high and unstable interest rates is the Fed's mishandling of monetary policy.



People at the sharp end — a dole queue in Detroit

Deficit dilemma

In the current financial year, which began in October, the administration expects federal borrowing to reach a record $99,000m. This is predicted to fall to $91,500m next year, assuming Congress accepts President Reagan's proposed $56,000m worth of measures to cut borrowing. In 1984, the year Mr Reagan had hoped to balance the budget, the projected deficit is $83,000m.

These may seem huge sums of money. But they are relatively small in the context of the United States' vast economy. The deficit in 1983 would represent 2.7 per cent of projected gnp, according to official forecasts, falling thereafter. The British public sector borrowing requirement (compiled on a different basis) is likely to be 4 per cent in the current financial year, falling to perhaps 3¼ per cent in 1982-83.

So what is the fuss about? The truth is that people simply do not believe the administration's figures: The deficit for the 1982 financial year was originally put at $37,700m. Congress now expects it to be treble that sum at $109,500m. (some $10,000m higher even than the latest official estimate). This is largely because of higher defence and social security spending and lower tax revenues than forecast because of the weaker than expected state of the economy.

The critics say that the administration is making the same forecasting mistakes again. It's growth forecasts — averaging 4.7 per cent a year between mid-1982 and 1987 — are too optimistic.

Lower growth will mean higher budget deficits. Higher than forecast inflation will also mean higher deficits, because the government will have to pay more interest on its borrowings.

Worse, the administration is accused of inconsistency. It says the economy should grow by nearly 5 per cent a year, which when inflation is falling only slowly to 4½ per cent a year, means money incomes growing at not less than about 10 per cent. Yet implied monetary growth is less than 5 per cent and interest rates are expected to average a prohibitive 4 percentage points more than inflation. President Reagan's expansionary objectives are at odds with the country's restrictive anti-inflationary monetary policies.

The autonomous Congressional Budget Office has forecast that the 1983 budget deficit could reach £159,000m with deficits of well over £100,000m continuing for several years.

Finally, the federal budget deficit does not even include, $20,000 to $25,000 of "off-budget" borrowing by many federal agencies and other bodies whose debts are effectively inderwitten by the government.

The big debate

The Federal Reserve has taken a lot of stick for both the high level and the volatility of United States interest rates

Certainly, interest rates have come down some way from the record levels of last spring, when they topped 20 per cent. But with the banks' prime lending rates back up to 16½ per cent, the real (pre-tax) cost of bank finance to leading companies is still around 8 per cent.

Mr Volcker has tried to defuse some of the criticism of the Fed by arguing that it is the market and not the Fed that sets interest rates. But whatever the finer points, the fact remains that it is the Fed's struggle to do its (perceived) job and contain monetary growth that is keeping interest rates high.

The Fed hopes that the present bulge in M-1 will prove short-lived and that the aggregate will start to return to a path consistent with this year's growth target of between 2½ and 5½ per cent.

Even then, however, the Fed fears that interest rates would not necessarily stay down for all that long.

It is often argued that the Fed is taking too short and too narrow a view of monetary behaviour,

There is also an argument that if only the Fed would improve its techniques and get the money supply fully under control, then interest rates could come down instantly.

The implication of the letter argument seems to be that the Fed should move over to a full-blooded attempt to control the monetary base. But the Fed would doubtless reply that a pure monetary base would in all probability produce more rather than less volatile interest rates. Moreover, it would not, in any case, bring lower interest rates so long as the combined demand of the public and private sectors for credit *outstripped* the restricted supply.

The future

In the short term it may yet be that monetary growth will subside, allowing interest rates to fall

But the differences of opion over medium-term prospects will remain and it is difficult to see how the two sides can be reconciled, except perhaps by a much more rapid decline in the rate of inflation

So long as the medium-term uncertainty persists, United States interest rates will remain at higher levels than they would otherwise have been. And that promises not only to slow down the pace of economic recovery in the United States but also to set a similar pattern for every other country.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crds	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams & Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 11[illegible]%, £10,000 up to £50,000 12[illegible]%, £50,000 and over 12[illegible]%.

Business Editor
Hot air is not good policy

Allowing the export of offshore gas is the most radical, and the most politically explosive, of all policy issues in the North Sea. In raising it last week, Energy Secretary, Nigel Lawson, may have meant merely to put the fear of competition into the Gas Corporation and new heart into the exploration industry.

A reading of the text reveals that he promised no more than to consider exports for new discoveries if there were a surplus of gas supplies to British requirements. But you don't release a genie of this mischeviousness from the bottle and expect it to return meekly when no longer needed.

In the first place the statement must encourage the EEC to press again the British to change their rules against export. So far the British ability to avoid Treaty of Rome rules on free movement of goods and services has been based on a discreet use of regulations requiring the oil and gas to be landed in Britain and through the British Gas Corporation's rights as first refusal buyer of all gas discoveries. Once a government says that in principle it will allow exports, then it lays itself open to action in the EEC courts to force it to follow this through. Nor can it then keep to guidelines restricting exports only to surplus supplies.

In the second place, in publicly favouring gas exports, the Government is bound to change the climate of negotiations between companies and the British Gas Corporation. For the companies, especially BP and Shell, this could be very lucrative indeed. The difference between Continental and top British prices for gas is some 20-25 per cent, or more than 5p per therm. Even if the companies don't necessarily wish to export, it gives them a better bargaining position to force more out of the British buyer — British Gas Corporation or private.

For the consumer, the immediate effect will be less beneficial. Whatever the efficiencies or inefficiencies of the Gas Corporation, its monopoly purchase position has enabled the ordinary consumer to purchase gas at considerably less than his Continental counterpart.

Freedom of gas exports will expose the British consumer to the choice of either seeing his future supplies pre-empted by the richer and more needy Germans and French, or having to pay a considerably higher price to keep them in the country.

It will have another effect. Many of the new gas finds are smaller accumulations close to the border with Norway, where a major trunkline system is now being planned to take gas to North-West Europe. Now that the plans for a grand British gas gathering pipeline to take gas from the area to Scotland have foundered on PSBR constraints, the Government's hope has been that oil companies would build smaller privately financed systems to Scotland.

Fine, if this is the only way they will be able to land their gas. Not so fine if they can more conveniently take it to the Norwegian or Dutch systems. Smaller finds will then tend to go to the Continent not Britain, even if British prices are as high as Europe's.

Mr Lawson's hope, and the logic of his beliefs, is that the short-term adverse effects will be outweighed by the long-term increase in discoveries and development which dompetition will encourage. All splendid stuff if the gas market were a market of freely transportable products and North Sea gas was an infinitely elastic supply. But it isn't. What it is, is a critical product which is largely sold through monopoly utilities, which has to be delivered through pipelines.

Mr Lawson may have meant *simply* to waive the prospect for its psychological effect. But, if that is the case, it is an act of playfulness woefully ill-considered.

Laker/Rowland
Whose money?

Giving credit to Sir Freddie Laker's brave if doomed attempt to take on the subsidized airline cartels is one thing. Enthusiasm for the People's Airline, a pale version of the original enterprise, is another. Firstly, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) which grants licences for routes, should think very carefully about the desirability of allowing a man responsible for the largest corporate receivership since Rolls-Royce, to repeat the cheap-price experiment on the blue ribbon London-New York run.

Total losses on this route last year were some $600m. Laker's Skytrain services were running at only 40 per cent capacity last month compared with a break-even figure of at least 60 per cent. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) raised transatlantic fares by 15 per cent a month ago in an effort to recoup losses. Pan American has been selling seats at below cost just to pull in some cash.

Under these circumstances, the prospects for the People's Airline look bleak at the very least.

Secondly, even if the CAA was to bow to political pressures to get Sir Freddie *in the air again*, there is likely to be months of delay before new licences can be granted. There will be formal protests from other independents like British Caledonian as well as from the nationalized airlines.

This brings us to the financial difficulties. It is estimated that a new airline would require working capital of, say, £10m. The purchase of five DC10/30 wide-bodied jets would cost, say, £80m.

But as the Orion Royal project showed a week ago, large investors are not interested in supporting Sir Freddie when even the world's major airlines are effectively bust. Despite the public's willingness to back a folk hero, the sums required are too large to allow a flotation on the Unlisted Securities Market without institutional support. And do either Mr Rowland or Sir Freddie himself have the kind of money needed to make up the gap?

Amersham
Fair rating

Amersham International is a unique company and so comparisons are hard to make. But at an issue price of 142p a share, giving a fully taxed price/earnings ratio of 18.9, the merchant bankers seem to have weighed up the interests of the future shareholders and the Government pretty well.

The *p/e* is calculated from the profit forecast of not less than £8.3m pre-tax for the year to the end of March, double last year's results and almost £2m more than profits made in 1978, the previous record. Fully taxed earnings per share are forecast at 7.5p.

Looking further ahead — as anyone who buys on almost 19 times earnings must — the chief justification is sales rising at 20 per cent a year. Amersham which makes radioactive isotopes for medicine and industry, sees strong growth potential in North America and Japan particularly, and is banking heavily on its technological lead and quality control.

Amersham is not subject to the sensitivity that would go with involvement in weapons, and certainly enjoys a good reputation in its rather esoteric field. So the likelihood is that when the shares come to market they will go to a slight premium, but not enough to spark off an unseemly scramble. There might be some embarrassment if it is a field day for the stags.

The Over-the-Counter Market

Capitalisation £000's	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge on week	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
1,234	ABI Hd 10% CULS	124	—	10.0	8.1	—	—
4,052	Airsprung Group	70	—	4.7	6.7	11.1	15.4
1,100	Armitage & Rhodes	44	—	4.3	9.8	3.7	8.3
12,464	Bardon Hill	204	—	9.7	4.8	9.9	12.1
5,958	Deborah Services	77	—	6.0	7.8	3.8	7.2
4,143	Frank Horsell	130	+1	6.4	4.9	11.7	24.1
11,702	Frederick Parker	81	+3	1.7	2.1	35.2	—
941	George Blair	51	+1	—	—	—	—
3,899	IPC	96	—	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4
2,250	Isis Conv Pref	105	—	15.7	15.0	—	—
2,378	Jackson Group	94	—	7.0	7.4	3.0	6.7
15,458	James Burrough	112	—	8.7	7.8	8.2	10.3
2,591	Robert Jenkins	254	+2	31.3	12.3	3.5	9.0
2,760	Scruttons "A"	56	—	5.3	9.5	8.6	8.0
4,003	Torday & Carlisle	164	—	10.7	6.5	5.3	9.8
2,885	Twinlock Ord	13½	+½	—	—	—	—
2,102	Twinlock 15% ULS	77	+1	15.0	19.5	—	—
4,120	Unilock Holdings	27	—	3.0	11.1	4.8	8.2
9,253	Walter Alexander	75xd	-2	6.4	8.8	4.8	8.5
5,228	W. S. Yeates	224	+5	13.1	5.8	4.2	8.6

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

Stock Exchange Prices

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Today. Dealings End Feb 26. § Contango Day, Mar 1. Settlement Day, Mar 8.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)



BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

[illegible]

MEDIUMS

[illegible]

LONGS

[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

[illegible]

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[illegible]

DOLLAR STOCKS

[illegible]

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

[illegible]

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

[illegible]

C—E

[illegible]

F—H

[illegible]

I—L

[illegible]

M—N

[illegible]

O—S

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FINANCIAL TRUSTS

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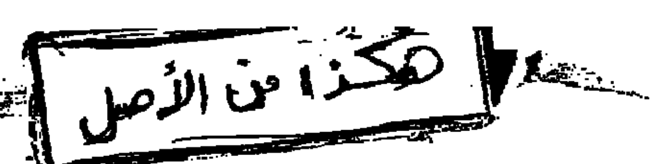
TEA

[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS

[illegible]

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. e Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax-free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.



هكذا من الأصل

HENRY BUTCHER

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FA Cup: Liverpool stumble on the arm of carelessness while Ipswich reel on an injured limb

When the boss kicks over the tea urn

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

An FA Cup run can secure a manager's position. Nothing appeals more to directors, supporters and the men at the bank than a glamorous journey towards Wembley. Four caretakers took their hopes and their sides into the fifth round on Saturday, but only Steve Kember, of Crystal Palace, is still there and even he is unlikely to reach the quarter-final stage.

Managers are praised for success and are too often asked to leave when failure knocks on the door. Essentially individual in their approach, not all their methods are particularly sophisticated. The main task of Bob Paisley, for example, is to apply oil to the Liverpool machinery and avoid the rust of self-satisfaction setting in.

He recalled the feat of Joe Mercer, who once led a team back from a 4—0 deficit at half-time to a 4—4 draw, missing a penalty on the way. "What did you say to them during the interval", he was asked. "I went into the dressing-room", he replied, "kicked over the tea urn and said, 'You got us into this mess—now get us out of it'."

There was no tea urn to kick over at Stamford Bridge. Mr Paisley saw his joint favourites walk out of the competition on the arm of carelessness.

Bobby Robson, manager of the other joint favourites, Ipswich Town, needs any support he can find. Crippled by injury, Ipswich's ambitions that embraced a treble less than a month ago have been reduced merely to holding their position in the championship table.

There are no such blinkers on Keith Burkinshaw, of Tottenham Hotspur. The holders and new favourites, they are still gazing fondly at four trophies. Mr Burkinshaw strengthened his defence by buying Clemence at the start of the season and the goalkeeper, who faces his former Liverpool colleagues at Wembley in the League Cup final next month, is unbeaten in 900 minutes of Cup football.

He denied Aston Villa, led by another caretaker manager, Tony Barton, whose home thoughts will shortly turn to abroad: Villa meet Dynamo Kiev in the first leg of their European Cup quarter-final tie in little more than a fortnight, an adventure that represents their last realistic hope of gaining some silverware. On that result may depend Mr Barton's future.

Ronnie Allen, West Bromwich Albion's manager, shares Mr Robson's injury problems but at least he can still rely on Regis, who is accustomed to carrying them almost on his own. His lone strike was enough to take them through against Norwich City but Mr Allen is still eager to sign a partner to take the load off Regis's broad shoulders.

West Bromwich, one of only three first division sides left, might be interested in a teasing figure: the last time so few of the elite reached the last eight was 51 years ago and West Bromwich have reason to remember the competition of 1931: they won it. Then in the second division, they beat their neighbours, Birmingham City, 2—1 in the final.

The chances of another second division side claiming the trophy for the fourth time in the last decade are healthy. Six of them remain but the sides with the worst scoring record in the division, Palace and Orient, meet each other again tomorrow night in the only replay after a predictable goalless draw at Selhurst Park. Having picked up six points in their first dozen League games, Orient gained 22 in their next dozen under their new leader, Ken Knighton.

Graham Taylor, of Watford, is free to concentrate on the prize he most wants—promotion—after his defeat at Leicester City. Jock Wallace, the City manager, prefers to win every game "even if it is a one-a-side practice", as he puts it. The first of their goals was headed home by O'Neill, who asked for a transfer on the eve of the tie. Terry, one of the most impressive young centre-halves in the country, inadvertently deflected the second past his own goalkeeper.

Queen's Park Rangers completed their second victory in a week over Grimsby Town, who are also under temporary management at the bottom of the division. Allen, Stainrod and Howe, with his first of the season, gave them a comfortable cushion on their synthetic turf, Moore replying for Grimsby. So London and the Midlands, each with four sides, will share the interest in today's sixth-round draw.

In the League Arsenal continued their steady progress and moved up into fourth place after beating Notts County. Meade scored the decisive goal that keeps them on a par with Keegan, who took his total for the season to 21 with Southampton's first against Nottingham Forest. Channon added the other but their lead is still only two points since both Manchesters were victorious.



The lonely and the loved: Suddenly Bob Paisley's world is as flat as a cloth cap while Chelsea's seems to embrace the moon. Aloneness and togetherness at Stamford Bridge.



Paisley's day-dreamers

By Stuart Jones
Chelsea 2 Liverpool 0

After the thousands of Londoners had had their say on Saturday afternoon two quiet Geordie voices tried to make sense of the nonsense that had unfolded at Stamford Bridge. How, in the name of reason, could Liverpool, the European champions and undefeated away since the long ago of September, yield to a bunch of Chelsea youngsters?

"They caught us day-dreaming," Bob Paisley, Liverpool's manager, explained. "When we move and play, we look the best team in the world. When we stand and play, we look like some Russian chess player. During our successful run we were not making any mistakes. Today we were back to our old habits of last year. We made two and they punished us."

While praise was dripping all over his side and the odds on a domestic treble were reduced to a remarkable 11 to 1, he alone had persisted in sounding a fog-horn of warning. He could foresee the rocks of complacency that lay ahead. "You have to put your heads down and battle in these games but try telling them that," he added with a significant shrug.

McDermott committed the first error seven minutes after the start and Grobbelaar made the second seven minutes from the end. McDermott's aberration brought back echoes of his slip in England's World Cup tie in Norway that proved equally costly and caused perhaps the other main surprise of the season so far. Lee dispossessed him and released Rhoades-Brown, who ran on and scored, dare one say, with all the confidence of a Liverpool striker.

"He was due for a goal," the other Geordie voice — that of John Neal, Chelsea's manager — said. "He scored one last season and nowt this." Rhoades-Brown's father is a Liverpool supporter and did not watch the game. "I'm just off to tell him the news. I think I'll give him the bad first and then the good", the son said afterwards.

Mr Neal divulged few of his tactics but it was clear that he used Pates to restrict Souness, who had to watch Fillery running midfield much as he would have wanted, and instructed his outstanding captain, the giant Droy, not to crowd Dalgleish too tightly. With Rush out of touch, even though he hit a post, the only danger lay in McDermott's runs from deep.

During Liverpool's pale purple patch midway through the first half McDermott twice threatened with volleys. One dipped and bounced off the top of the bar. The other, struck on the turn from Hansen's chip, was held superbly by the diving Francis, Chelsea's 17-year-old goalkeeper, who is still only an apprentice.

The professional at the far end could not match the youngster's cat at the close. He flapped at Walker's cross, saw it bounce off the knee of Neal, who was embarrassed throughout by Rhoades-Brown, and come to rest at Lee's feet. Those huddled in The Shed were acclaiming victory before the ball struck the back of the net. As the sun set their hopes of Wembley began to rise.

CHELSEA: S Francis; G Locke, C Hutchings, M Nutton, M Droy, C Pates, P Rhoades-Brown, K Hales, C Lee, C Walker, M Fillery.
LIVERPOOL: B Grobbelaar; P Neal, M Lawrenson, A Kennedy, R Whelan, A Hansen, K Dalglish, S Lee, I Rush, T McDermott (sub, C Johnston), G Souness.
Referee: S Bates (Bristol).

A place at the top for Turner

By Norman Fox
Shrewsbury T 2 Ipswich T 1

Shrewsbury reached their mountain top at 4.45 pm on Saturday and were about to enjoy the view when they heard the other FA Cup results. It was like a package deal throng of folks from the same street arriving on the same summit also singing jolly songs about going to Wembley.

Beating one of the first division's favourites to reach the sixth round is all very well but when the second division has more survivors than the first, the celebration is not the same. At least Shrewsbury are the lowest of the second division clubs definitely through to the last eight, and at least they scuttled Ipswich without a trace of luck.

They won with two set-piece goals of the sort that foreigners do so well but not country clubs in medieval English towns on grounds such as Gay Meadow. Their first came from a free kick conceived, according to their affable young manager, Graham Turner, on "freezing Thursdays when we practise these things. On four or five occasions they may not come off but today. . .".

There was no leaping over the ball or dummy-runs. King chipped over the Ipswich wall, drawn up just inside the penalty area, and Cross was at the other side waiting to volley past Cooper. It may have been a mis-kick off the shin but the thought was there.

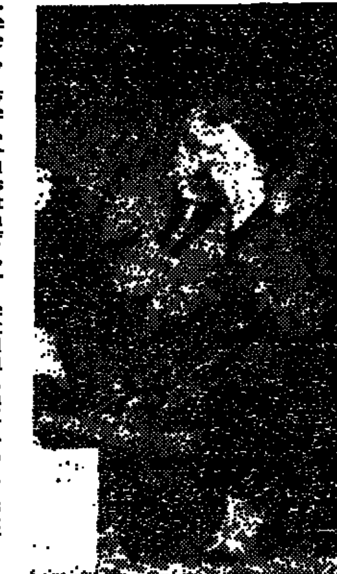
King had returned to the team only the previous Saturday after missing the first half of the season with a stomach injury. He had an inspiring game, challenging the 18-year-old midfield schemer, McNally, and solid Keay for unofficial "man of the match", an award for which Ipswich would had only one outside contender. Osman propped up a defence trembling on the aging, slowing legs of Allan Hunter who was replacing Butcher.

Ipswich were also without Mariner and Thijssen, but, probably, Shrewsbury would have beaten a full-strength team, such was their industry and ability to cling on when repulsed in the second half. But, by then, they were two up. Mr Turner's corner practice was well rewarded when Keay glanced the ball on over the goal area from Tong and King headed in.

With Atkins, Biggins and Tong hammering their defence, Ipswich reeled beyond hope of a full recovery. Mills had a ghastly match; only when he was substituted and the young South African, D'Avray came on to cut into the penalty area and score with 13 minutes left, did Ipswich have a hope of forcing a replay.

Shrewsbury's admirable goalkeeper, Wardle, guaranteed the assets his colleagues had so effectively built.

SHREWSBURY TOWN: R. Wardle, J King, P Johnson, S Cross, C Griffin, J Keay, D Tong, B McNally, I Atkins, S Biggins (sub J Dungworth), C Bates.
IPSWICH TOWN: P Cooper, G Burley, S McCall, M Mills (sub M D'Avray), R Osman, A Hunter, J Wark, A Muhren, B. O'Callaghan, A Brazil, E Gates.
Referee: K Walmsey (Blackpool).



Bobby Robson: No hiding behind excuses.

Spurs are on the road to Wembley

By Nicholas Harling
Tottenham 1 Aston Villa 0

There was a maxim not so long ago that the team that beat the Villa went on to win the cup. Tottenham Hotspur, who have done so en route to three of their six triumphs, did nothing to disprove the theory on Saturday. Neither, so far, have the fates which have conspired to grant them nine successive home draws in the two cup competitions.

With Liverpool and Ipswich conveniently falling by the wayside, it now seems as certain that Spurs will be making yet another Wembley appearance in May as it is that they will be helped on their way by coming out of the hat first again in today's sixth round draw.

Should Spurs be denied a home tie, it is unlikely that their resilience will be examined more on the way to what is becoming a familiar destiny than it was in the fifth round. Villa, who now have only (only?) the European Cup to aim for besides the retention of their first division status, may be currently without a head but theirs was not a performance of a team lacking direction.

For the second time in four days since the resignation of Ron Saunders their urgency prompted the hardly plausible suggestion that some of the players had stopped giving their all for the manager who took them to the championship. Morley and Mortimer certainly looked rejuvenated.

Spurs, according to their manager Keith Burkinshaw—excusing a weary second half in which they had all but totally conceded midfield—had had a hard game on Wednesday. But so had Villa and there was plenty of running left in the legs of the players who had fought back against Southampton, specially the midfield who were indefatigable.

They pushed Spurs to the limit although injuries had kept out Villa (the player) and Hazard. Spurs midfield vacancy was filled by Roberts, a far less creative player, but one who having lost his place at centre half, showed his versatility. His virile, occasionally crude contribution did much to assist Tottenham's security which was most frequently threatened by Morley on his own recall to Villa's side.

If successful teams need a hard man Spurs certainly have one in Roberts. Mr Burkinshaw was vindicated with that particular gamble as he was with his decision to persevere with Falco although Archibald was fit.

Falco, it was, who launched himself high above McNaught to score the only goal in the thirty-third minute from a cross by Crooks after a splendid run by Price, who had exchanged passes with both Hughton and Ardiles.

The unflagging pace of the game left Hoddle tooo breathless to weave his usual influence much beyond one exquisite pass to Crooks and a late jinking run along the by-line which Rimmer anticipated. Had Villa possessed similar inspiration to match their endeavour, it would have been easier to sympathize with their caretaker manager Tony Barton, who said: "Teams don't always get what they deserve."

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: R Clemence; S Perryman, P Miller, P Price, C Hughton, O Ardiles, G Roberts, G Hoddle, M Falco, G Crooks (sub, S Archibald), A Galvin.
ASTON VILLA: J Rimmer; K Swain, A Evans, K McNaught, G Williams, D Mortimer, D Bremner, G Cowans, D Geddis, P Withe, A Morley.
Referee: K Hackett (Sheffield).

Coventry to prove top underdog

By Peter Shard
Coventry City 4 Oxford Utd 0

A trick question much favoured by those that go in for that sort of thing is: how many times have Coventry City won the FA Cup? Coventry City have never won the FA Cup, nor seriously threatened to do so. Nor have they won any of football's big honours.

But there is a growing body of opinion, admittedly mostly to be found in the environs of Highfield Road, that this season they could change all that. After all, they will tell you, this is the Chinese Year of the Dog, dubbed by many in football as the year of the underdog—as it has so far proved.

It was hard to believe at times that this ragbag collection of apparent no-hopers was the side who comprehensively disposed of Brighton in the last round.

Coventry, not exactly blessed with an over abundance of skill themselves, seemed bewildered that their opponents did not have more to offer and consequently struggled to find any sort of rhythm. It was something of a relief when Thompson pounced on a loose ball in the goalmouth on the stroke of half-time to open the scoring.

Five minutes after the interval they found themselves in the comfortable, if distinctly flattering, position of being 3—0 ahead. First Hateley headed in Bodak's cross with all the aplomb of his father before him; then Thompson concluded a move involving Bodak, Hunt, Barnes, Hateley and Hunt again by heading into the far corner.
into the far corner.

The final goal came as the result of Wright's inability to control the ball when confronted by Hateley on the right. The striker gratefully accepted the chance, charged in from the wing and struck the ball cleanly into the top corner of the net.

COVENTRY CITY: J. Blyth; D. Thomas, D. Barnes, G. Francis (sub, S. Jacobs), P. Dyson, G. Gillespie, P. Bodak, D. Bradford, M. Hateley, G. Thompson, S. Hunt.
OXFORD UNITED: R. Burton; J. Doyle, D. Fogg, B. Jeffrey, G. Briggs, M. Wright, K. Brock (sub, O. Kearns), P. Foley, K. Cassells, A. Thomas, T. Smithers.
Referee: C. White (Harrow).

Taking the tedium too far

By Paul Newman
Crystal Palace 0 Orient 0

Ken Knighton, the Orient manager, expressed the hope after this fifth round FA Cup tie that his club "would get more than 4,000 people to watch the replay". If the attendance tomorrow fails to better that figure, which is just about the average at Orient these days, Mr Knighton would do well to look beyond the rail strike when trying to find the reasons.

It would be difficult to put forward a case as to why anyone other than a committed follower of either club should bother turning up for the replay. Saturday's game at Selhurst Park lived up to everything that should have been expected from a London derby in which there was so much at stake and which featured the second division's two least productive attacks against two of its tightest defences.

Desperate measures, such as a five-man defence, might have been excusable when Mr Knighton arrived last year at Orient, who were then rooted to the foot of the table. Quite why he should use the same tactics against Palace's two lone forwards, Walsh and Mabbutt, who have scored a grand total of five goals between them this season, was as puzzling as his opposite number's decision to bring off Hilaire midway through the second half.

Wicks, the centre half, posed the biggest threat. His power in the air at corners frequently worried Orient and one effort which Fisher cleared off the line was the closest Palace came to scoring.

At the other end the admirable Wicks kept a tight check on Moores, whose one clear shot at goal was well saved by Barron. The Palace goalkeeper was also on hand to block Orient's only other chance of note, a hesitant shot from Godfrey after an inch-perfect cross from Moores.

CRYSTAL PALACE: P Barron, P Hinshelwood, D Boulter, J Murphy, S Wicks, J Cannnon, S Brooks, N Smillie, I Walsh, V Hilaire (sub T Langley), K Mabbutt.
ORIENT: M Day, C Foster, R Fisher, T Taylor, N Gray, K Osgood, K Godfrey, J Margerrison, I Moores, B Silkman, H Hughton.
Referee: N. Ashley (Nantwich).

World Cup build-up backed by managers

The Football League's leading managers, with Bobby Robson, Keith Burkinshaw and Lawrie McMenemy to the fore, have backed the World Cup preparations of England, Northern Ireland, and Scotland. They agreed yesterday at a meeting of managers, coaches and secretaries to release players from money-making end of season tours and friendly matches.

At the meeting in Coventry they agreed to do all in their power to let the three international managers have their squads from May 15 the week before the FA Cup Final. Over 70 managers heard Ron Greenwood, Billy Bingham and Jock Stein, go through their schedules of matches and get-togethers before the World Cup finals begin on June 13.

Players involved in the FA Cup final, any European Club finals or important league fixtures would be needed by their clubs, but the managers went out of their way to say that they would try to ease the road to Spain.

England's Ron Greenwood said: "We have cemented a few ideas, put forward a few thoughts we have on our preparations and generally received good co-operation from them. Their hearts are in the right place and that is important."

Bobby Robson, of Ipswich Town, summed up the thoughts of the managers on avoiding unnecessary extra fixtures for international players in May. "I have already told my players we will not be going anywhere on tour or playing friendlies at the end of the season. I feel we have got to make these sacrifices for the good of our international teams", he said.

The managers heard from Billy Bingham, of Northern Ireland, of the advantages in having get-togethers on Sundays and Mondays, apart from the training sessions before international matches. This might be of particular value to England and Scotland with regard to under-21 and youth team fixtures where they do not have automatic release.

Keegan and co in a novel role

By John Nicholls
Southampton 2 Nottm Forest 0

Not so long ago Southampton used to delight in stepping up their play in order to take on the League leaders. Most teams do, often they succeed, but cannot achieve anything like the same performance against lesser clubs. Southampton are now, for them, in the novel position of being the team the others want to beat. For the third game in succession they could have been knocked from their perch, but on each occasion they have demonstrated their recently acquired mixture of confidence and aggression.

And what a difference confidence, or lack of it, can make to a team. Nottingham Forest showed plenty of aggression, as Keegan will testify, but to a man they were devoid of confidence. It is not difficult to see this present team sliding ever deeper into obscurity, with the possibility of more players joining those already on the transfer list.

Of the unwanted men who are still in the team, Robertson tried hard to pull his side together, while Fashanu only emphasized why he is for sale. Forest's most pressing problem is a lack of fire-power, having scored only once in their previous five matches. Against a side that always seemed to outnumebr them, Forest created few chances, but when they did there was nobody on hand properly to finish them off.

Southampton showed exactly how it ought to be done. There were always midfield men on hand to support the strikers, so that if Keegan or Channon was countered someone else would be available to maintain the initiative. The visitors held out for 24 minutes against such probing and then paid dearly for slack marking.

Channon pulled back a corner to Ball, whose measured pass to the far post was headed on to the crossbar by Nicholl. With Shilton helpless, Keegan had all the time and space he needed to tap in the rebound for his twenty-first goal of the season. Ten minutes into the second half Southampton made sure of the points with the sort of move Forest once employed but which now seems unattainable for them.

Katalinic threw out the ball to Golac, who reached the half-way line before he was challenged and had to pass to Keegan. He spotted Hebberd darting forward to the right of goal and found him with a first-time pass. Hebberd's cross was met by Baker in full flight and though Shilton blocked the shot yet another Southampton player, Channon, was on hand to pop in the rebound.

Forest's list of injured or unwanted players grew when their West German, Roeber, was carried off in the second half after a tackle for which Baker was rightly cautioned.

SOUTHAMPTON: I. Katalinic; I. Golac, N. Holmes, G. Baker, C. Nicholl, M. Waldron, K. Keegan, M. Channon, T. Hebberd, D. Armstrong, A. Ball.
NOTTINGHAM FOREST: P. Shilton; V. Anderson, B. Gunn, D. Needham, W. Young, I. Bowyer, G. Mills, J. Roeber (sub, S. Gray), J. Fashanu, P. Ward, J. Robertson.
Referee: M. Dimblebee (Stevenage).

Lyall is not fooled by comeback

By Peter Bills
West Ham U 2 Birmingham C 2

A Dutchman, a Belgian and an aging Englishman, who gave a vintage performance, formed the essential difference between two faltering sides at Upton Park. Observers hitherto unaware of the facts of the affair would do best to ignore the scoreline.

West Ham escaped with a first division point, just as the drowning man clutches a life raft as he is about to disappear beneath the waters. As Birmingham's manager, Jim Smith, rightly emphasized, the visitors should have clinched their first League away win for nearly 16 months long before the referee, with the eye of a hawk for mischievous deed where others saw nothing, made a decisive intervention.

Stewart converted the penalty and Orr's first goal for the club combined to give the off-colour Londoners a point which fooled no one, especially their manager, John Lyall. Brooking stumbled into anonymity long before the end, taking most of his colleagues with him, and Mr Lyall insisted on greater commitment and work rate than his players had produced on this particular day.

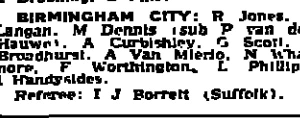
Van der Elst, one of Belgium's leading players more latterly imported from New York Cosmos, illustrated the difference between the sides. He wandered aimlessly for the most part, a fierce volley in the first half which flew narrowly wide his only major threat.

Afterwards Van der Elst explained the problem of fitting into the team. "It will come but at present we don't understand each other. The other players try things which I don't understand and it is the same for me."

The Englishman in vintage form was Birmingham's trans-Atlantic commuter Frank Worthington, aged 33. The man who idolizes the late Elvis Presley and spent his year alternating between English and American clubs was fierce and accurate with his shooting. His ball control, vision, passing and enthusiasm were all of the highest order.

Van Mierlo hit a post from his midfield pass, Parkes could only parry his ferocious shot from the inside left position, leaving Whatmore a simple goal.

WEST HAM UNITED: P Parkes, F Lampard, P Brush (sub for J Neighbour), W. Bonds, R Stewart, N Orr, F Van Der Elst, P Goddard, D Cross, T Brooking, G Pike.
BIRMINGHAM CITY: R Jones, D Langan, M Dennis (sub P van den Hauwe), A Curbishley, G Scott, K Broadhurst, A Van Mierlo, N Whatmore, F Worthington, L Phillips, I Handysides.
Referee: I J Borrett (Suffolk).



Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7 30 unless stated

FOURTH DIVISION: Stockport County v Tranmere Rovers.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Dagenham v Gravesend.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland: Kidderminster v Alvechurch.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Gateshead v Goole.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: Manchester United v Aston Villa.
SURREY SENIOR CUP: First round: Walton and Hersham v Addlestone and Weybridge.

Forfar beat Rangers to Hampden Park

By Iain Mackenzie

The most interesting thing about this season's Scottish Cup competition is not that Celtic are out, or that the holders, Rangers, are still in. It is that the draw, made on Saturday evening by the son of the Dundee United manager, Jim McLean, brought together Queen's Park and Forfar Athletic, so there will be at least one somewhat unlikely name in the semi-finals.

Forfar's chances of reaching Hampden would normally be about the same as Scotland's of winning the Benson and Hedges Cup at cricket. Their manager, Alec Rae, may be forgiven, therefore, for his somewhat wry comment that "... we have got to Hampden before Rangers."

Whether the little east coast club can tilt at giants in the last four is another matter; they may be more likely to make a dignified exit and leave Queen's, the last of the true amateurs, to seek a place in the final on their own ground.

Forfar reached the last eight by beating Heart of Midlothian, Edinburgh's first division side, 1—0 at Tynecastle. It was a defeat Hearts did not expect and the response of their supporters at the end told the whole story. Hearts attacked for much of the game, but failed to break the strong Forfar defence, and when Hancock scored after 52 minutes, the writing was on the wall for the city side.

Celtic's defeat by Aberdeen in the far north was almost predictable. Recently the two met at Pittodrie, and after conceding a goal in the first minute, the end any hope the Aberdonians had of recovering the league title. At the same time they did themselves a favour by maintaining the gap in the race for the championship.

It was a different story on Saturday. Aberdeen may not be the side they were a year or so ago, but they are not in the habit of losing at home to the same team too often. Most forecasters expected a draw, but the Scottish Cup like the FA equivalent, has a habit of making forecasts look silly.

On Saturday Aberdeen took 19 minutes to score their goal, but it was a good one, worthy of any cup-tie. Weir's corner glanced off McLeod's head when he might have cleared it with just a little more care. It dropped in front of Hewitt, who was quick enough to push out his left foot and send the ball past Bonner.

Elsewhere the afternoon went exactly according to plan. Rangers had another easy win, this time against Dumbarton, scoring four times in the second half. As St Mirren won 2—0 after travelling the short distance to Clydebank, only in Dundee was there any sign of another upset.

Dundee United, who held Rangers to a scoreless draw in the final last season, before falling 4—0 in the replay, made heavy going of their tie with Hibernian. Despite a 10th minute goal by Holt, they struggled to salvage a draw after Rae equalized for the Edinburgh team in the 65th minute.

QUARTER-FINAL DRAW: St Mirren v Hibernian or Dundee Utd. Queen's Park v Forfar Athletic. Aberdeen v Kilmarnock; Rangers v Dundee.

... and tables

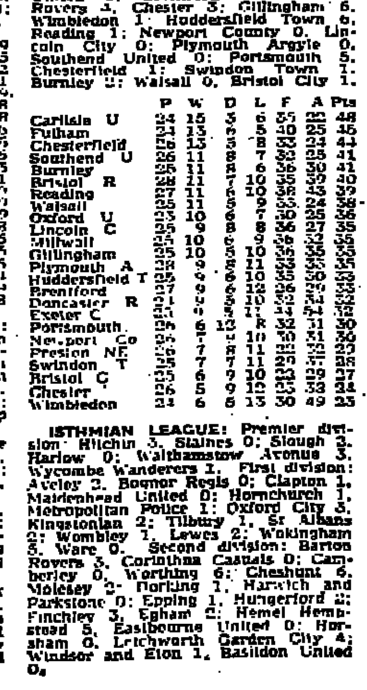
17 0020 SWEETHILL (G Carlotti) G R...
000 ENTERPRISE EXPRESS ...
9-4 My John Charlott, 5-2 Top Reef, 5 ...
16 others.

2 15 BPA BETTING OFFICES CH... (15)

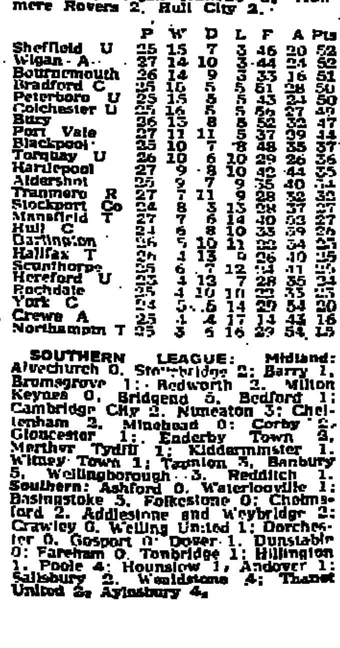
1	304344	MERRY MEADOW (CD)
6	200/10p	CAMBOOYA (Mrs E Bouch...
7	00-00p4	CAUBEEN (W Jasper) Mrs ...
10	030C00	COMMANDER CHRISTY (M...

2.45 FLYAWAY CHASE (Hunters ...

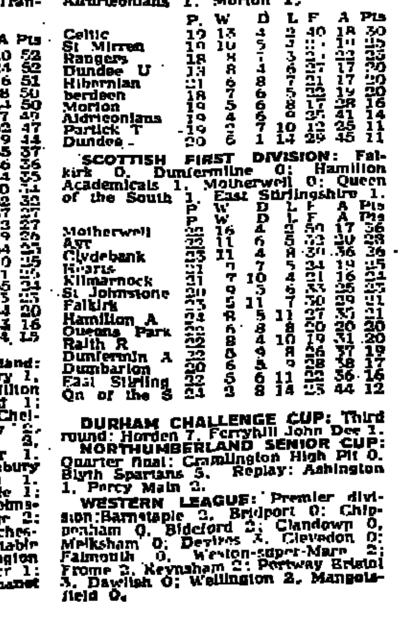
SECOND DIVISION: Derby County 1, Charlton Athletic 1; Newcastle United 2, Cardiff City 1; Rotherham United 1, Cambridge United 0; Wrexham 0, Sheffield Wednesday 1.



THIRD DIVISION: Bristol Rovers 2, Preston North End 0; Carlisle United 1, Brentford 0; Doncaster Rovers 1, Chester 3; Gillingham 6, Wimbledon 1; Huddersfield Town 6, Reading 1; Newport County 0, Lincoln City 0; Plymouth Argyle 0, Southend United 0; Portsmouth 5, Chesterfield 1; Swindon Town 1, Burnley 0; Walsall 0, Bristol City 1.



FOURTH DIVISION: Blackpool 2, Mansfield Town 3; Bournemouth 1, Stockport County 0; Bury 1, Halifax Town 1; Hartlepool United 2, Hereford United 1; Peterborough United 3, Darlington 1; Port Vale 0, Crewe Alexandra 0; Sheffield United 4, York City 0; Torquay United 0, Wigan Athletic 0; Tranmere Rovers 2, Hull City 2.



SCOTTISH CUP: Fourth round: Aberdeen 1, Celtic 0; Clydebank 0, St Mirren 2; Dundee United 1, Hibernian 1; Heart of Midlothian 0, Forfar Athletic 1; Kilmarnock 3, St Johnstone 1; Queen's Park 2, Alloa Athletic 0; Rangers 4, Dumbarton 0.
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Airdrieonians 1, Morton 1.



SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Arbroath 3, East Fife 1; Clyde 3, Berwick Rangers 1; Cowdenbeath 0, Brechin City 0; Montrose 1, Stranraer 2.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Bolton Wanderers 1, Newcastle United 1; Manchester United 1, Blackburn Rovers 2; Preston North End 2, Everton 3; Sheffield Wednesday 2, Aston Villa 5; Stoke City 2, Huddersfield Town 0.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier Division: Old Chigwellians 0, Lancing OB 0; Old Carthusians 2, Old Cholmeleians 1; Old Malvernians 4, Old Foresters 0. First Division: Old Aldenhamians 7, Old Reptonians 1; Old Etonians 2, Old Ardinians 3.

SCHOOLS: Brentwood 1, Haileybury 0; Charterhouse 0, Farnham 2; Harrow Weald 1, Ealing Green 4; Sexey's, Bruton 3, Foster's, Sherborne 0.

Yesterday's results

Third division

Millwall (2) 5 Exeter (0) 1
Horrix (2) Rogers
Tagg (3) 3,628

Fourth division

Aldershot (0) 2 Rochdale (1) 2
French (2) Cooper, Hilditch
2,079
Bradford C (0) 0 Scunthorpe (0) 0
5,103
North'ton (0) 1 Colchester (1) 2
Cobbill Allinson, Bremner
3,102

Scottish Cup
Fourth round

Dundee (1) 3 M'dowbank (0) 0
Ferguson, Smith, Mackie

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bass Cup, third round: Mossley 0, Kings Lynn 0.

Rugby Union

No wonder Leicester are loved by everyone down at Newport

By David Hands

Newport 16 Leicester 15

Over the years Newport have been positively effusive in welcoming Leicester to Rodney Parade in their programme notes. It is not difficult to understand why: Leicester have won there only four times and on Saturday they failed to add a fifth in a game which their backs should have made totally secure. It was a story told many times before, of inventive running by the visitors while the hosts, with a slight smirk, steal away with the spoils.

Newport, whose season hitherto has been remarkably average—14 wins, 14 defeats and a draw—won by a goal, a try and two penalty goals to a goal and three penalties and reflected, in the presence of the coaches of England and Wales, some of the virtues and ills which are features of the Wales team.

Their forwards provided the foundation of victory, with sound scrummaging, some splendid lineout work by the stringy Waters and, most importantly, a more positive attitude in their pursuit of the loose ball. Powell, the flanker, had a particularly effective game, as did the Wales B hooker, Watkins, and their rolling mauls, on the day, were more efficiently performed than those of Leicester.

Behind the scrum there was little distinction. The Newport backs, missing Justin Robinson and the unavailable Stuart Barnes, were very plain.

Ackerman, the Welsh wing, hardly received a pass all afternoon, even though he scored the second Newport try. His best work, as it has been for Wales so far, was in defence and one memorable cover tackle on his wrong wing prevented a certain try by Barry Evans. In addition the alignment of the Newport backs was so poor that it was surprising Leicester took so long to carve their way through.

The one thing the Newport backs did well was cover and tackle. Even so, that Leicester went through the second half without scoring a try was a travesty; in that respect they can blame no one but themselves for defeat.

There were times when Woodward, Cusworth and Hall tore yawning holes in the Newport midfield until it became so easy they forgot to do the simple chores which must be done if tries are to come. Poor Woodward: he is a player of heart and alarming skill but he needs the cool head of Dodge alongside to bring him down from the flights of fancy to which he sometimes aspires.

So the Leicester will o' the wisps buzzed hither and yon, all too often coming into untimely contact with perspiring Newport forwards who, struggling across the field to fill the gaps, were delighted to gobble up any Leicester back who came their way and cut their journey time. Had the ball run more to Leicester's right wing, the straightforward pace of Barry Evans must have brought a try but on the one occasion in the second half that it did Hare went for the line himself and was stopped.

Billinghurst opened the scoring from a No 8 pick-up which exposed the lack of Leicester back-row cover. A half-break and finely judged pass by Hall sent Woodward on his way for Leicester's try, Hare converting and kicking a penalty to give the visitors a 9—4 lead at the break.

Ackerman's try, converted by Havard, came after three rolling mauls had sucked in the Leicester cover. Two more Hare penalties restored Leicester's lead but late in the day Goldsworthy kicked two for Newport and, though Leicester finished in splendid attack, time had run out. No wonder they love Leicester at the Newport Athletic Club.

NEWPORT: R Havard; R Ackerman, P Rolland, G Evans, J Robinson; M Goldsworthy, A Billinghurst; C Smart, M Watkins, R Morgan, A Aubin, J Widdecombe, D Waters, R Powell, K Williams.

LEICESTER: W Hare; B Evans, C Woodward, B Hall, R Barnwell; L Cusworth, N Youngs; J Deacon, P Wheeler, S Redfern, S Johnson, D Black, N Jackson, I Smith, A [illegible].

Referee: R Pardoe (Swansea).

Scotland call up Paxton

Scotland have been forced to change their side for the international against Ireland at Lansdowne Road on Saturday. David Leslie broke a leg against Heriot's on Saturday while playing for the champions, Gala and his place will be taken by fellow Borderer, Eric Paxton, of Kelso.

Leslie's injury was confirmed yesterday morning and Paxton, who has been on the verge of full international honours for some years, was asked to step in.

Nick Stringer, the Wasps full back who is due to collect his second cap for England against France in Paris next Saturday, left the field, during his club's match with Cambridge University, with a hamstring injury.

After treatment over the weekend he will join the rest of the England squad at Stourbridge this evening where both he and the Leicester centre, Paul Dodge, will have to show the selectors that they are on the mend. Dodge has also had a hamstring injury, but the selectors may defer a definite decision until later in the week, to give both players more time.

The Swansea and Wales lock, Geoff Wheel, has retired from international rugby. He won the last of his 32 caps against Ireland last month, the country against whom he made his international bow in 1973. Wheel, aged 30, will still play for his club but business and domestic reasons have influenced his decision to retire from the highest flight.

Cardiff further depress the spirit of Ebbw Vale

By Gerald Davies

Ebbw Vale 9 Cardiff 22

Ebbw Vale used to be a team to be reckoned with, but that was when the steel company dominated the town. To underline the influence and strength the steel works once brought to Ebbw Vale, the rugby team has only been a shadow of its former self since the closure.

The spirit which took them to the semi-finals in 1976 and 1977 was, however, evident again at Eugene Cross Park on Saturday in the third round of this year's cup competition. In a thrilling contest, full of grit and determination, Ebbw Vale gave way only in the final 15 minutes.

Cardiff, taking the lead for the first time in the 66th minute, deserved to win. But as they themselves will be the first to admit, they were flattered by the final score of two goals, a try and two penalties to a goal and a penalty.

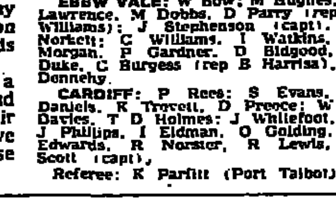
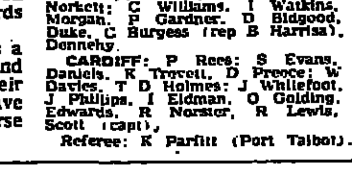
Whatever was said in the pre-match team talk, Ebbw Vale responded by giving a rousing performance. For just over an hour they managed to upset the rhythm of Cardiff, the cup-holders and favourites to retain the title. The home side did not set out with any daring plan, but what they did on a limited scale, using the forwards and half backs, they did well.

Possession at the lineout was a decisive factor. Bidgood and Duke did rather better than their opposite numbers, which gave more time for Norkett to nurse his forwards.

Cardiff made matters difficult for themselves by trying to play Ebbw Vale at their own game instead of courting the style which led to their first try. When trailing 6—0, after Watkins had charged down an attempted clearance kick by Holmes to score a try which Stephenson converted, Holmes initiated an attack from well within his own half. It set up a position on Ebbw Vale's line from which they received a free kick, and Phillips scored for Davies to convert.

This movement stretched the home side's tightly knit defence, but the lesson went unheeded and the three-quarter manoeuvres that Cardiff tried, invariably seemed to bring the ball back to Ebbw Vale's source of strength.

In the second half, first Stephenson and then Davies exchanged penalty kicks, before late in the game Davies cleverly held back and picked up a stray kick from the former. He ran 40 metres to score a try which took Cardiff into the lead for the first time. Davies then added another penalty and, in injury time, kicked a conversion for Golding's try.

EBBW VALE: W Bow; M Hughes, G Lawrence, M Dobbs, D Parry (rep L Williams); J Stephenson (capt), K Norkett; C Williams, I Watkins, P Morgan, P Gardner, D Bidgood, S Duke, C Burgess (rep B Harris), C Donnehy.

CARDIFF: P Rees; S Evans, P Daniels, R Trevett, D Preece; W G Davies, T D Holmes; J Whitefoot, A J Phillips, I Eidman, O Golding, K Edwards, R Norster, R Lewis, J Scott (capt).

Referee: K Parfitt (Port Talbot).

Leslie blow to Gala championship hopes

By Iain Mackenzie

Gala's 18—13 defeat by Heriot's at Goldenacre in Edinburgh on Saturday has thrown the Scottish rugby championship wide open. Now Gala, Hawick and Heriot's all have 16 points from nine games and all have two matches to play. The crunch is likely to come in just under two weeks, when the champions meet their old rivals Hawick, at Netherdale in a game which could decide the destiny of both the National and Border league titles.

It has been said often enough that Gala collapse when they see *green jerseys coming at them*; if they do on the 27th of this month their dreams of three titles in a row will remain dreams.

There is no doubt though that Gala were unlucky on Saturday. David Leslie Scotland's quiet man was injured after just five minutes play and had to go off with what proved to be a broken leg. He is out of the Gala side now and will be for the rest of the season. He will not only lose some caps; his speed round the scrum will be missed by the champions who rely on his ball winning ability and excellence of distribution more than they care to say.

Leslie's absence meant much to both sides at the weekend, for different reasons. How much longer will it be before replacements are allowed at club level? There has never been a suggestion that fit players should be replaced, but there is an urgent *need for legislation allowing* 15 men to play against another 15 and not against a crippled side.

Gala lost on Saturday by 18 points to 13 in a competitive game for the first time in more than a year. Who is to say that they would, or would not, have lost with a full strength side?

The try count was two each with Hancock and Cheblowski scoring for Gala and Dodds converting Hancock's try. Dodds also kicked a penalty goal. The Heriot's tries were scored by Irvine and Lang. Hewitt converted both tries and Irvine kicked two penalty goals.

Elsewhere Hawick continued their challenge for the championship with a 27—3 win against Jedforest well led by Roy Laidlaw. Jedforest took an early lead but their weakened side (they were without the usual backrow) gradually caved in against the powerful Hawick eight.

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gala	9	8	0	1	236	61	16
Hawick	9	8	0	1	255	99	16
Heriot's	9	8	0	1	178	98	16
Kelso	9	6	0	3	164	115	12
Watsonians	9	4	0	5	146	126	8
Boroughmuir	9	4	0	5	121	142	8
Stewarts M'ville	9	4	0	5	143	172	8
W. of Scotland	9	3	0	6	124	139	6
Selkirk	9	3	0	6	126	171	6
Jedforest	9	3	0	6	66	212	6
Gordonians	9	3	0	7	83	168	4
Melrose	9	1	0	8	72	309	2

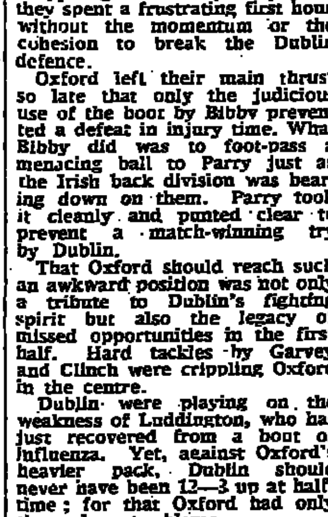
Slemen shows his gifts as Irish fade

By Tom Cooban

Liverpool 19 London Irish 9

Liverpool, the Northern merit table leaders, and London Irish, who top the London table, staged a Merseyside rugby spectacular. They brought the best from each other and gave an exhilarating display of skill, pace and commitment.

In the second half the home team broke an Irish grip which had seemed irresistible and won by two goals, a try and a penalty goal to a goal and a penalty goal.



Liverpool have all round strength and in Slemen a winger with few, if any equals. His colleagues directed much of their effort to bringing him into action and, seemingly unmindful of injury in England's time of need, he brought all his gifts to bear. He glided past opponents with elegant ease, and kicked with pinpoint accuracy.

Slemen was awarded a penalty try when an opponent impeded his pursuit of the ball as it ran to the line. It was, perhaps, a generous ruling, but no more than just reward for all round excellence.

The Irish dominated the first half. The pack gained clean possession from a majority of scrums, and McCarthy, Sheehan and Christopher won many of the lineouts. Crotty, the fast loose forward and scorer of the Irish try, had to go off injured at half time. Murphy, a centre, was similarly unfortunate.

Crotty scored after a break by Watkinson and Christopher, and *O'Donnell converted. A penalty* by Killen gave Liverpool slight relief from pressure, but Watkinson restored the Irish margin with another penalty goal.

On half-time the Irish squandered their advantage by allowing Heaton, the Liverpool centre, to intercept a pass from which he scored unopposed.

When Liverpool took command in the second half, Hemnigan's ability to be there at the right time brought him a try which Killen converted. Slemen's penalty try—again converted by Killen—put the result beyond doubt.

LIVERPOOL: J Hennigan (captain); M Killen, P Melia, J Eaton, M Slemen; A Askew, G Jones; P Robbins, T Mella, G Chubb, A Penn, J McKeon, J Hescott, T Morris, K Moss.

LONDON IRISH: P O'Donnell; J Bales, N Murphy (replacement, N McCullo), T Watkinson, R McKibbin; H Condon, B Murphy; A Newberry, O Berlager (captain), P Enevoldson, P Crotty (replacement, G Beale), G McCarthy, C Sheehan, W Jones, C Christopher.

Referee: A Moulton (Durham).

Oxford a degree too cold

By John Clemison

Oxford Univ 15 Dublin Univ 12

If Oxford University want to save themselves the agony of a tight finish to almost every game this season, they must spend more time warming up before the match. Though they ran out winners on Saturday by two goals and a penalty goal to a goal, a dropped goal and a penalty goal, they spent a frustrating first hour without the momentum or the cohesion to break the Dublin defence.

Oxford left their main thrust so late that only the judicious use of the boot by Bibby prevented a defeat in injury time. What Bibby did was to foot-pass a menacing ball to Parry just as the Irish back division was bearing down on them. Parry took it cleanly and punted clear to prevent a match-winning try by Dublin.

That Oxford should reach such an awkward position was not only a tribute to Dublin's fighting spirit but also the legacy of missed opportunities in the first half. Hard tackles by Garvey and Clinch were crippling Oxford in the centre.

Dublin were playing on the weakness of Luddington, who has just recovered from a bout of influenza. Yet, against Oxford's heavier pack, Dublin should never have been 12—3 up at half-time; for that Oxford had only themselves to blame.

Oxford persisted with moves so obvious that even the travel-weary Dubliners could see through them. The repeated efforts of Coleman to crash through Dublin's line came to nothing as the Irishmen smothered the ball in the tackle.

Dublin went ahead through a well-worked try by Egan, converted by Clinch and a dropped goal by Egan.

The outcome, however, hinged on the ability of Halliday, the Oxford stand-off, to shake off tackles and break through. First he came streaking across the back line, missed out Coleman and sent Crowe on a diagonal run. Parry came into the line to put Bibby in for the try, Halliday converting.

Ten minutes from time, Halliday again broke through and set Saunders up for a long run. That eventually took Oxford to a 5-metres scrum, at which Brooks picked up and fed Luddington, and Halliday was at his scrum half's shoulder to carry the ball over the line, adding the conversion from the touchline. That, plus a first half penalty goal, also by Halliday, brought Oxford their three-point victory.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: M Parry (Canford and Balliol); S Saunders (UCT and Christ Church), *P Crowe (Sydney University and University capt.), D Coleman (St Edward's Liverpool and University), *A Bibby (St George's Vancouver and St Catherine's); *S J Halliday (Downside and St Benet's Hall), *R S Luddington (King's College, Wimbledon and St Edmund Hall); *J Webster (Uppingham and Oriel), M B Kenny (St Mary's, Liverpool and St Edmund Hall), A Abbott (Sydney University and Queen's), *C Hugo-Hamman (UCT and Jesus), *N T Roberts (Glenalmond and Jesus), *J P Searle (King's School Tynemouth and Hertford), A Best (Berkhamsted and St Edmund Hall), *A W Brooks (Plymouth College and Hertford).

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY: J Huggard; T McFarland, J Garvey, P Clinch, N Meicherle; C Cruess-Callaghan, K Egan; L Booth, L Macken, J Curran, I Duffy, C O'Kelly (capt), M Ryan, J Reid, D Fitzgerald.

Referee: D Thomas (North Midlands).

*A Blue

Weekend results







WELSH CUP: Third Round: Bridgend Sports 12, Newbridge 46; Ebbw Vale 9, Cardiff 22; Neath 3, Bridgend 26.

CLUB MATCHES: Bath 6, Gloucester 13; Birkenhead Park 33, Halifax 15; Bradford 6, Roundhay 16; Broughton Park 35, Abertillery 0; Cheltenham 15, Cross Keys 7; Coventry 13, London Scottish 12; Fylde 17, Orrell 12; Hartlepool Rovers 30, Huddersfield 9; Headingley 4, Bedford 0; Hull and East Riding 22, Sheffield 13; Liverpool 19, London Irish 9; Llanelli 8, Harlequins 19; New Brighton 15, Northern 24; Newport 16, Leicester 15; Northampton 19, Moseley 13; Nottingham 18, Pontypridd 7; Nuneaton 53, Old Edwardians 0; Oxford University 15, Dublin University 12; Penarth 3, Aberavon 26; Pontypool 45, Saracens 0; Richmond 3, Blackheath 9; Rugby 3, Manchester 13; Swansea 34, South Wales Police 4; Vale Of Lune 26, Morley 9; Wakefield 14, Loughborough Students 3; Wasps 19, Cambridge University 3; Waterloo 9, Gosforth 23; West Hartlepool 16, Harrogate 0; Wilmslow 3, Birmingham 9; London Welsh 7, Rosslyn Park 13; Clifton 10, Glamorgan Wanderers 31; Sale 30, Middlesbrough 3; Bristol 27, Exeter 3.

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Boroughmuir 38, Gordonians 9; Hawick 27, Jed-Forest 3; Heriot's F P 18, Gala 13; Kelso 32, Melrose 6; Stewart's Melville F P 18, Watsonians 9; West of Scotland 23, Selkirk 6.

SCHOOLS: Blackpool Collegiate 12, King Edward VII, Lytham 21; Cannon 7, St Joseph's Academy 8; Chichester HS 6, St Peter's Bournemouth 25; Eltham 15, City of London Freeman's 0; Emanuel 11, Hampton 0; Gravesend 28, Maidstone GS 13; Haberdashers' Aske's, Hatcham 20, Chislehurst & Sidcup GS 4; Heath 0, Normanton 45; Judd 3, Dartford GS 4; King Henry VIII, Coventry 0, Queen Mary's GS, Walsall 9; King's Macclesfield 6, Bradford 22; Lancaster RGS 26, Manchester GS 3; Latymer 13, Glyn 0; Loretto 56, Royal HS, Edinburgh 0; Mount St Mary's 21, Magnus, Newark 12; Rochester Math 44, St George's, Gravesend 4; St Edmund's, Ware 17, St George's, Harpenden 8; St Mary's GS, Sidcup 12, Brockley County 14; Wallington HS 3, John Fisher 6; West Park GS, St Helens 16, Hipperholme GS 7; William Ellis 4, High Wycombe RGS 7.

Yesterday

BERKSHIRE CUP: Semi-final: Newbury 19, REME Arborfield 3.

CLUB MATCHES: Fylde 22, Oldham 7.

Harry Kerr

Waiting for a wind to blow: competitors at the start of the Watneys London sailboard series finals at Princes Club, near Staines, yesterday. The final was planned for December but the venue was a sheet of ice when competitors arrived; yesterday the water was available, only the wind took a long time to come.

Golf

Faldo's round suffers from another poor finish

From John Ballantine

Honolulu, Feb 14

Andy North, 30, of Wisconsin, the US Open champion of 1978 who has since rather become one of golf's forgotten men, had a birdie on the last hole to join Wayne Levi in the lead on 207 after the third round of the Hawaiian Open. Tom Watson, Bobby Clampett, Charles Coody and Scott Simpson lay two strokes behind.

On another beautiful day Nick Faldo, suffered again from a poor finish and dropped three strokes in the last three holes in his 73. He stood on 213, six strokes behind the leaders. He holed from 12 feet for an early birdie at the second and, despite dropping strokes at the sixth where he was behind a tree and at the seventh where he had three putts; he was out in 35 with another eagle three at the 501-yard ninth, chipping in from 20 yards.

When Faldo birdied the 12th with a 10-foot putt he was still in good shape. He hit the green at at the long 13th with a towering four iron but from 35 feet again took three putts.

The 16th is a tricky hole of 434 yards, slightly dogleg left with trees on the corner and a long iron then needed towards the ocean. Faldo placed his drive perfectly, tight into the corner but unluckily found his ball "teed-up" on a coconut pod lying in the springy grass.

His shot ran into the back of a bunker. It was only two feet in and on a downhill lie with 10 yards of sand before a steep face, with the flag ten feet beyond, on a glassy green.

Inevitably, perhaps, Faldo failed to carry the face. His second sand shot hit the hole, spun five feet past, and he just missed the putt for a six. Adding indignity to misfortune, Faldo's group was then told by an official to "hurry up" at the 191-yard seventeenth. Shades of the fine imposed on Faldo for allegedly slow play after he retained his PGA title last year!

After rushing his tee shot a bit, Faldo was in a bunker. He came out a little too strongly and missed a 25-foot putt to drop another stroke. "Muggins does it again" was his typical comment. But he grinned as he said it which could be a good sign for his last round.

THIRD ROUND LEADERS (all US): 207: W Levi 72, 68, 67; A North, 69, 69, 69. 209: T Watson, 70, 69, 70; C Coody, 72, 69, 68; R Clampett, 67, 72, 70; S Simpson, 70, 69, 70. 210: B Crenshaw, 70, 72, 68. 211: J Nelford, 73, 69, 69; M Lye, 69, 71, 71; C Beck, 72, 68, 71. 212: L Elder, 69, 72, 71; A Geiberger, 72, 74, 66; G Powers, 72, 66, 74; D Halldorson, 73, 66, 71; F Fezler, 73, 70, 70. 213: N Faldo (GB), 73, 67, 73.

Clayton collects enough to clear his debt

Melbourne, Feb 14. — The Australian Michael Clayton, the newest professional in an illustrious field, shot from obscurity to a three-stroke win in the $100,000 Victorian Open at Metropolitan here today.

The 24-year-old Clayton, 1978 Australian amateur champion who turned professional last September, finished with a 68 to pass overnight leaders Lee Trevino, of the United States, and a fellow-Australian, Bob Shearer.

Clayton, who missed the cut in three earlier tournaments, had a final total of 281, seven under par, and collected $38,000, $18,000 for winning and $20,000 for a hole in one at the 13th yesterday. Shearer earned $9,800 for finishing second on 284. Trevino floundered with a final round of 74, leaving him joint third on 285.

By mid-afternoon it was certain that there would be a home-town result with Shearer and Clayton together on six under par and the earlier challengers relegated to the background.

At the half-way mark, Clayton was seven under par and he gained another stroke at the 14th. He lost it at the next, regained it at the 16th only to drop back to seven under at the 17th.

Clayton's steadiness and superiority was emphasized by his six birdies and two bogeys in the final round. He covered the first nine in 33 and came home in par 35. Asked what a young professional does when he is suddenly confronted with so much money, Clayton replied: "I will talk to a few guys about it and possibly buy a house or something."

Shearer, who bogeyed the 10th and 13th to slip to four under, never recovered. Trevino got away to a bad start when he double bogeyed the first hole after getting into a bunker then bogeyed the fifth. Although he recovered ground at the 12th and 14th he was out of contention. For the man who came here to breathe life into the tournament and was actually favourite for most of the early rounds, it was clear well before the end of the first nine that his only interest could be a share of the minor money.

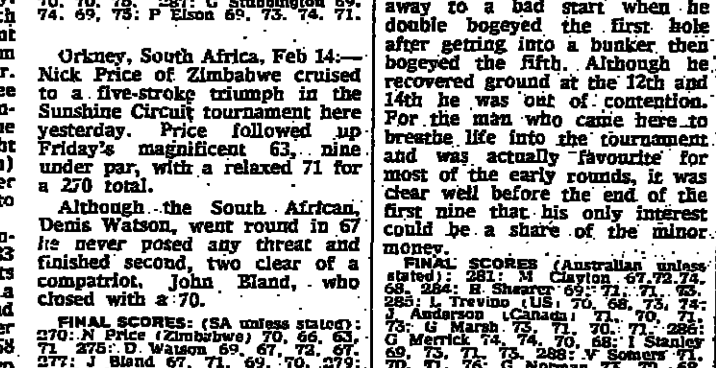
FINAL SCORES (Australian unless stated): 281: M Clayton 67, 72, 74, 68. 284: B Shearer 69, 71, 71, 73. 285: L Trevino (US) 70, 68, 73, 74; J Anderson (Canada) 71, 70, 71, 73; G Marsh 73, 71, 70, 71. 286: G Merrick 74, 74, 70, 68; I Stanley 69, 73, 71, 73. 288: V Somers 71, 70, 71, 76; G Norman 73, 72, 68, 75; T McDonald 71, 68, 77, 72; P Foley 73, 76, 72, 67. 289: J Victorsen 73, 76, 70, 71; A Bonnington (New Zealand) 69, 73, 74, 73; A Russell (US) 70, 76, 72, 71; R Shaw 72, 68, 74, 75. 290: T Gale 73, 73, 73, 71. 291: W Dunk 69, 71, 75, 76; P Headland 71, 74, 70, 76; I Baker-Finch 77, 72, 72, 70; R Stephens 74, 75, 73, 69.—Agencies.

Morgan's 64 lifts victory

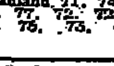
Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, Feb 14.—Britain's John Morgan returned a last round of 64, eight strokes under par, for a two-strokes victory in the Ivory Coast Open championship here today. Morgan's fine round, which hoisted him to victory from joint fifth place overnight, gave him an aggregate of 272, 16 under par.

He scored an eagle and three birdies on the outward half, turning in 31 and being then only one stroke behind the overnight leader, Ian Woosnam (Britain) who led him by five strokes after the third round but took 35 to the turn today.

Morgan maintained the momentum with an inward half of 33 while Woosnam, dropping shots at two short holes, took 36 for a round of 71. This gave him second place on 274. Third was another Briton, David Jagger, whose 68 for 275 included an albatross two when he holed out from 200 yards.




FINAL SCORES (GB unless stated): 272: J Morgan 66, 72, 70, 64. 274: I Woosnam 71, 65, 67, 71. 275: D Jagger 70, 66, 71, 68. 276: M Poxon 70, 65, 73, 68; T Horton 70, 69, 67, 70; Chien Teng Tsao (Taiwan) 71, 68, 67, 70. 277: R Craig 68, 71, 71, 67. 278: D Jones 68, 71, 70, 69; P Tupling 71, 68, 69, 70. 279: M Steadman 68, 71, 71, 69; Tso Ming Chen (Taiwan) 63, 70, 73, 69. 280: A Charnley 68, 69, 73, 70. 282: P Dawson 73, 68, 72, 69. 283: G Brand 71, 71, 73, 68. 285: G Harvey 70, 68, 75, 72; M Thomas 71, 70, 70, 74. 286: W Longmuir 73, 70, 71, 72; M Inglis 72, 71, 74, 69; J Higgins 71, 70, 70, 75. 287: G Stubbington 69, 74, 69, 75; P Elson 69, 73, 74, 71.



Orkney, South Africa, Feb 14:—Nick Price of Zimbabwe cruised to a five-stroke triumph in the Sunshine Circuit tournament here yesterday. Price followed up Friday's magnificent 63, nine under par, with a relaxed 71 for a 270 total.

Although the South African, Denis Watson, went round in 67 *he never posed* any threat and finished second, two clear of a compatriot, John Bland, who closed with a 70.

FINAL SCORES: (SA unless stated): 270: N Price (Zimbabwe) 70, 66, 63, 71. 275: D. Watson 69, 67, 72, 67. 277: J Bland 67, 71, 69, 70. 279: V Tshabalala 72, 71, 68, 68; A Johnstone (Zimbabwe) 71, 67, 70, 71. 281: W Humphreys (GB) 73, 69, 71, 68. 283: M King (GB) 66, 73, 74, 69; M Rungo (US) 73, 72, 70, 67. 283: F Allem 73, 67, 73, 70; T Claassens 69, 73, 66, 75. 284: R Rafferty (Ireland) 73, 71, 69, 71; G Levenson 70, 71, 71, 72. 285: A Chandler (GB) 70, 71, 74, 70; I Palmer 72, 68, 75, 70.

Squash rackets

Age no barrier to women finalists

By Richard Eaton

Only Martine Le Moignan, beaten as much by an attack of influenza as by the enduring skills of the veteran Australian Margaret Zachariah, failed to reach her alloted place in the finals of the Prodorite Open Tournament at the Egbaston Priory Club, Birmingham yesterday.

That was a disappointment to those who had been looking forward to the sight of another installment of the continuing rivalry between two Guernsey teenagers who, from a small island base, are threatening to conquer the squash world.

Miss Le Moignan's *friend* and rival, Lisa Opie, the new British champion and the top seed, reached the final by beating Robyn Blackwood, a New Zealander ranked eighth in the world, 7—9, 9—4, 10—8, 9—1. Both there had been omens of disappointment. Miss Opie had trailed 5—6 in the final game in the quarter-finals against Ruth Strauss, the British under-23 champion, and had to save two game balls at 7—8 in the third game against Miss Blackwood.

In any case, the final between Miss Opie and Sue Cogswell, five times the British Champion, whom she succeeded only last month, might be just as interesting. Miss Cogswell, at the age of 30 and playing at her home club, reckons revenge is not beyond her. "I spent years trying to lose weight and then lost a stone quite by accident" she said. "It's funny. I lost the desire to eat and it left me weak. Now I feel stronger and better". She recovered from a game at 4—8 down and saved four game balls in the second game to beat Miss Zachariah.

Another New Zealander, ranked eighth in the world, Ross Norman, reached the men's final after a struggle. He had to save a game ball in the second game and needed five games before beating the England number four, Ian Robinson, 9—4, *10—9*, 5—9, 1—9, 9—4. Robinson was the only outseeded player in the last 16 of the world championships after coming from two games down to beat the Australian Ricki Hill in November.

Two years previously he came from two games down to win the world plate. It would have been the finest win of Robinson's career had he done the same thing to beat Norman, but in the end the fuel to the engine did not quite eke out.

There were ructions too. "You're laughing, stop gloating", Robinson told the referee at one point. Dean Williams, the number two seed, was warned by the referee for arguing later on. "I'll argue if I want to, if you're wrong", the Australian replied. Traffic problems with money at stake threatened to turn the atmosphere sour. Williams went on to beat Gawain Briars, the England number two, 9—7, 9—0, 9—7, taking 14 points in a row from 6—7 down in the third game.

SEMI-FINALS: Men: D Williams (Australia) beat G Briars (GB), 9—7, 9—0, 9—7. Women: S Cogswell (GB) beat M Zachariah (Australia) 8—10, 10—8, 9—0, 9—1; L Opie (GB) beat R Blackwood (NZ) 7—9, 9—4, 10—8, 9—1.

SINGAPORE: World Junior Team Championship, Final: Pakistan beat Australia 3—1. Third place: England beat New Zealand 2—1. English matches: J Hickox beat H Leabourn 10—8, 9—7, 9—3; C Willstrop beat D McQueen 6—9, 9—0, 9—7, 9—1; M Bodimeade lost to R Wyatt 1—9, 6—9, 9—3, 4—9.

EDINBURGH: British Universities championship: Men's final: L Comic (Stirling) beat A Cuthbertson (Heriot-Watt), 9-0, 9-2, 9-5. Women's singles: J Bonfield (Loughborough) beat S Stone (Birmingham), 2-9, 9-4, 9-4, 2-9, 9-6.

Cresta Run

GRAND NATIONAL: Final placings after three runs: 1, N Baracchi (Switzerland) 161.91 secs; 2, C Nater (Switzerland) 163.70; 3, M Melcher (Switzerland) 164.29; 4, U Burgerstein (Switzerland) 165.06; 5, C Tesdorpf (WG) 165.44; 6, U A Nater (Switzerland) 166.80. British placings: 15, M Buckley; 17, M Innes.

Bowls

Watson leads from start to finish

By Gordon Allan

John Watson, aged 36, of the West of Scotland Club in Glasgow, won the Embassy world indoor championship at Coatbridge, near Glasgow, yesterday. He beat the British Isles champion, Jim Baker, of the Cliftonville Club, Belfast, who first played in a church hall, 21—13 in the final.

Watson is the first Scot to win this title, which had been held since its inaugural year, 1979, by *David Bryant*. The first prize is £4,000 but Watson is returning it to the Scottish Indoor Bowling Association in order to retain his amateur status and play for Scotland in the Commonwealth Games. Baker, aged 23, received £2,000 as runner-up.

Watson led from start to finish. He scored three at each of the first two ends and rarely looked in danger of being overtaken. What little luck there was ran his way. Yet when the pressure did fall on him he was generally equal to it and could be relied on to retrieve or save.

Baker found himself three times within three shots of Watson. The last occasion was 16—13. On the decisive end, with the score 18—13, Baker fired three times to try to give himself another chance. In the process he knocked all his own woods from the green.

With his last wood he might have done better to draw and save. But hindsight is easy. Being Irish, he decided to put safety second.

In the semi-final round on Saturday, Watson beat the Scottish champion, John Fullarton, 21—15. Not for the first time, an early lead was deceptive. Watson, when he was 8—2 down, trailed the jack into the ditch to score an uplifting three. At the thirteenth end he scored four to *lead 13—11. Another four*, six ends later, took him to 20, and the door to the final was open.

RESULTS: Semi-final round: J Watson (Scotland) 21, J Fullarton (Scotland) 18. Final: Watson 21, J Baker (Ireland) 13. Third-place final: J Dunn (England) 21, Fullarton 19.

Rugby League

Moroccan at centre of Fulham revival

By John Clemison

Fulham 14 Hunslet 4

There has been so much shuffling of the Fulham team over the last three months because of a string of injuries and transfer requests, not to mention a series of defeats, that some players are having to adopt new roles, and are appearing in a new light.

In the first round of the Challenge Cup yesterday, M'Barki, an early season signing from Moroccan Rugby Union transformed a *dull, hard struggle* between Fulham and second division Hunslet. He has quickly become a *favourite* at Craven Cottage, because he has at last found his true position, in the Fulham centre rather than on the wing.

Hunslet found M'Barki the most troublesome player in the Fulham side yesterday and he was rewarded with two tries. He made a third for Radbone when he could easily have scored himself.

Fulham's victory, by four tries and a goal to two penalty goals, brought little comfort for the dwindling crowd, M'Barki aside. Pinned down by the powerful running of Rowe, Wright and Burgess, Fulham found possession an embarrassment at times.

In the first half, particularly, Hunslet had a wealth of possession and, had it not been for the control by Dalgreen in the scrums, the London side could have found themselves adrift. Hunslet were unlucky not to score several tries.

Fulham soon went ahead. A series of charging runs by Hoare, Wood and Beverley and a quickly taken penalty for off-side against Hunslet gave M'Barki the room to go over the line. Hunslet came back with a penalty goal by Fitzsimons after Kinsey, Fulham's best forward, had been penalized.

Just before half-time, Crossley went on a darting run and presented Stringer with his first try for Fulham. After the break only some desperate tackles by Beverley, Dalgreen and Souto kept Hunslet at bay and the Northerners could manage only another penalty goal by Fitzsimons.

In the last quarter, however, Fulham and M'Barki came alive. He also showed that raw pace still has its place, even with barely a yard of room.

M'Barki made a 40-metre run to ensure Fulham's place in the next round. Their tails up, Fulham finished with a try by Radbone, scored after the speed of M'Barki had broken the Hunslet defence yet again.

FULHAM: S Diamond; C Radbone, H M'Barki, H Stringer, M Walsh; J Crossley, A Kinsey, H Beverley, J Dalgreen, P Souto, S Hoare (sub. D Doherty), J Wood, N Tuffs.

HUNSLET: M Nicholson; I Nicholson; K Orbison (sub. C Wallis), P Brace, E Fitzsimons, N Rudd, R Applegard; N Lean (sub. M Nezzler), P Gibson, M Burgess, S Wright, D Booth, D Rowe.

REFEREE: R Moore (Wakefield).

Giants glad to survive

By Keith Macklin

Although giant killers were nowhere to be found in the first round of the Challenge Cup, sponsored by State Express, quite a few giants emerged from unexpectedly hard encounters bruised, battered and glad to be alive.

Dewsbury came closest to an upset at Bradford, where they held the first division side to a narrow 14—12 victory. At Ninian Park Cardiff City defied gloomy prophesy by making the cup holders, Widnes, fight all the way.

Before a crowd of 6,480, the second highest for a club game in Cardiff, the Blue Dragons scored first with a penalty goal from Fenwick. They pulled back twice to 5—9 and 8—14 with good tries, and although finally losing 19—8, left the field to loud applause and with their heads high.

In the end the superior class and experience of Widnes proved decisive, but Cardiff never gave up. For Widnes Tony Myler scored two tries and Basnett also crossed the Cardiff line, John Myler landing five goals. Fenwick and Pritchard touched down for Cardiff, and Fenwick kicked one goal.

This being a cup weekend, there were many fiery *incidents*, and at Leigh three men were sent off, Scott and Holbrook, of Warrington, and Green, of Leigh. Warrington led 9—7 at half-time but the fast and attractive Leigh side scored four tries

Saturday

CHALLENGE CUP: First round: St Helens 12, Wigan 20; Workington Town 33, Blackpool Borough 8.

Yesterday

CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Batley 23, Huyton 15; Bradford Northern 14, Dewsbury 12; Bramley 4, Wakefield Trinity 16; Cardiff City 8, Widnes 19; Carlisle 2, Castleford 17; Doncaster 6, Rochdale 7; Fulham 14, Hunslet 4; Halifax 17, Huddersfield 12; Hull 29, Salford 15; Keighley 5, Barrow 12; Leigh 28, Warrington 17; Swinton 5, Oldham 15; Whitehaven 7, Hull KR 17; York 5, Leeds 34.

Hockey

Francis helps Suffolk to semi-final place

By Sydney Friskin

Suffolk 1 Nottinghamshire 0

Crane Sports Club, Ipswich, was the scene of much rejoicing yesterday when Suffolk qualified for the semi-final round of the County Championship, sponsored by Rank Xerox. Their hard-earned victory over Nottinghamshire put them into this stage of the competition after five years of sweat, toil and a few hard-luck stories, usually told at the bar.

For Suffolk, there was a splendid all-round performance by Melvin Francis, who won the prize for the man of the match. But the team were also well served by Wallace, who held the defence together, Long who ran hard and Robinson, who made the space.

Nottinghamshire began well but suffered from a lack of concentration inside the circle. A couple of hard centres from the left by Doherty went begging before Suffolk took up the chase. Crowe, twice run off the ball by a Nottinghamshire defender, earned short corners in quick succession.

Suffolk's corner drill looked a little smarter and one of these awards led to the winning goal in the 19th minute. Two shots by Long were well saved by Mallows, who had a superb game in goal, before Rush dashed in to push the ball over the line. Nottinghamshire responded by forcing two short corners. Palmer mishit the first, but from the second Saund should have scored.

As they did in the first half, Nottinghamshire came into the first ten minutes of the second with a serious threat, failing again and again to put the finishing touch. But from the 17th minute Suffolk dominated the play with Long looking very dangerous on the breaks. Both he, and Crowe, were denied certain goals by Mallows, who made superb saves.

SUFFOLK: D Horgan (Bury St Edmunds); D Barker (Ipswich), G Waters (Bury St Edmunds), A Wallace (Southgate), M Francis (Bury St Edmunds), M Robinson (Oxford Univ.), S Jameson (Bury St Edmunds, sub. M Tew, Bury St Edmunds), L Turner (Bury St Edmunds), M J Crowe (Southgate), R Rush (Reading Univ.), S Long (Dulwich, capt).

NOTTS: B Mallows (South Notts); C Palmer (Nottingham), I Mellrow (Nottingham), P Harvey (Nottingham, capt), P Doherty (South Notts), G Lillyman (Nottingham), A Saund (Nottingham), N Clark (Nottingham, sub. J Ahmed, S Notts), N Cassell (Nottingham), E Abdullah (Nottingham, sub. M Gilbody, S Notts), P Hartley (Nottingham). Umpires: R Wilson (Nthn Counties) & I S Brown (Sthn Counties).

RESULTS: County Championship—quarter-final round: Yorkshire 1, Surrey 2; Suffolk 1, Notts 0; Gloucestershire 1, Cheshire 2; Cambridgeshire 0, Bucks 1. Semi-final draw: Surrey v Suffolk, Cheshire v Bucks.

National Club championship: 2nd round: St Albans 1, Bromley 2.

England blend earns title

By winning the home counties indoor championship, sponsored by Rank Xerox, at Maidenhead on Saturday, England set at rest fears that the best team had not been selected, *Sydney Friskin* writes. Their decisive 10—5 victory over Scotland in the last *match of the day was the result* of a superb performance which enabled them to win the title for only the second time.

After a disappointing 7—7 draw with Wales and an unimpressive 6—2 win over Ireland, England seemed unlikely to match the smooth running of the Scots, who had easily disposed of both Wales, and Ireland. But England, inspired by Clarke, ran into a 5—1 lead and Scotland, bewildered by England's enthusiasm, could not recover ground. At one stage, England were leading 10—2 and going extremely well until a late surge by the Scots enabled them to score three quick goals.

England's scorers were Clarke (3), Nicholson (2), Kerley (2), Nurse, Eyre and Leman. McPherson (2), McLean, Thom and Callaghan scored for Scotland. Wales, who showed a marked improvement in style and technique, finished third with a draw and an exciting 7—6 win over Ireland.

RESULTS: England 7, Wales 7; Scotland 8, Ireland 3; Scotland 11, Wales 4; England 6, Ireland 2; Wales 7, Ireland 6; England 10, Scotland 5.

FINAL PLACINGS: 1, England 5 points; 2, Scotland 4; 3, Wales 3; 4, Ireland 0.

Juniors are fourth

England's junior indoor hockey team finished fourth in the European championship in Vienna, beaten 8—6 by France in the play-off for the bronze medal. England were defeated by Austria in the semi-finals on penalty strokes, having won their group. Austria defeated Scotland 9—7 in the final.

Champions are held to a draw

By Joyce Whitehead

Leicestershire held the national championship holders, Staffordshire to a 3—3 draw at Loughborough on Saturday, having led 2—0 after 10 minutes.

Early in the match when the Staffordshire goalkeeper, Janet Taylor (Sutton), sat on the ball in the goalmouth, Mary Grimley (Loughborough) converted the penalty stroke and within minutes, Mary Cheetham (Loughborough) scored the second but Staffordshire did not appear even perturbed. They tightened their ranks, persevered and Cathy Legg (Tamworth) reduced the arrears before half-time.

Fencing

Harper lifts tr

By a Special Correspondent

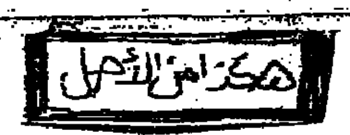
Pierre Harper, aged 24, from Salle Goodall, in Islington, won the Leon Saul International men's foil trophy for the third time in London yesterday—a worthy winner in a field which included 85 contestants from nine countries.

Seeded number one, Harper drew his fellow Briton Steve Glaister, winning 10—5, and Michael Marx (US), winning 10—7—thus securing his place in the final of eight, along with his teammates Graham Paul and Tony Bartlett.

Harper, having despatched both Israeli finalists, Jacques Hatuel and Uzi Carmi, had to face Frenchman Bruno Royer for first place. Both stylish fencers, the final flight was a delight to watch, as Harper

... first place in the ... final went to the A team, 3—5.

RESULTS: 1, P Harper (GB); 2, B Royer (France); 3, U Carmi (Israel); 4, G Paul (GB); 5, G Benko (Australia); 6, M Marx (US); 7, J Hatuel (Israel); 8, P Bartlett (GB).



Racing

Broadsword's turn to sharpen up

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Now that Daring Run and Ekbalco have just laid bare their claim to be regarded as possible champion Hurdle winners at Cheltenham next month, it is up to Broadsword to do likewise at Nottingham today, when the City Trial Hurdle is his objective.

Broadsword won over today's course and distance last season and his trainer, David Nicholson, told me that he opted for today's race, even though it is a handicap, instead of the Kingwell Hurdle at Wincanton next week, because he was sure that the course at Nottingham would suit him better than Wincanton.

Nicholson said that he could not be more delighted with Broadsword at present and expects to have him spot-on for the Champion Hurdle on March 16.

What now of some of his most serious rivals? At Newbury, I watched, along with countless others, with admiration Ekbalco's gallant attempt to give weight to all but Heighlin in the Schweppes Gold Trophy.

Ridden with customary restraint early on by David Goulding, who said later that he could not have gone any faster in the early stages even if he had wanted to, Ekbalco steadily scythed his way through the opposition in the straight, and looked to have the race won jumping the last hurdle.

Goulding had timed his challenge to perfection, but sadly for those who had plunged on Ekbalco, in a mighty gamble, he had not allowed for John Francome conjuring one last-ditch effort out of Donegal Prince, whose spirited counter-attack just succeeded.

In a pulsating finish Mount Harvard was breathing down their necks in third place. He was followed home by For Auction, Holemoor Star, The Tsarevich, Mr Moonraker and Badsworth Boy.

With two runners finishing in the leading bunch, both Nicky Henderson and Susan Morris were able to take pride in their training, even if they did not steal the limelight.

Heighlin, Gaye Chance, and Apple Wine were the disappointments of the race. Apple Wine was tailed off when he was pulled up at the end of the back straight. Apparently, his rider, Andy Turnell, thought that the horse had hurt himself after he had hit two hurdles very hard. I never saw Heighlin or Gaye Chance with a ghost of a chance, and on this performance alone they have done their Champion Hurdle prospects no good at all.

The sight of Paul Kelleway greeting Donegal Prince in the unsaddling enclosure, his face one huge smile, reminded me of the race's early history, which was dominated by another of racing's great characters, Ryan Price.

Kelleway was not riding for Price in those days when he trained the winner four years out of five.

The nearest he got to winning it for the wizard of Findon was on Moonlight Bay, who finished third in 1973. But the knowledge that he accrued when he was there, and when he was riding for Fred Winter, has stood him in good stead as a trainer.

Within 12 months Kelleway has trained the winner of the French Oaks and the Schweppes Gold Trophy. How is that for versatility, not to mention the spirit of adventure? On Saturday, he gave much of the credit to his wife, Gillian, and his daughter and son, Gay and Anthony, who have been riding Donegal Prince at home these past few weeks, while he was on a working holiday in the United States.

If Donegal Prince had been beaten, Kelleway might have kicked himself for flying in the face of the handicapper and asking his horse to carry 4lb overweight. But anyone who has watched Francome regularly this winter would testify that that bit extra was worth its weight in gold.

On News King earlier in the afternoon, Francome again had us goggle-eyed and marvelling at his skill. After News King had won the New Year Handicap Steeplechase at Newbury last month, his trainer, Fred Winter, vowed that he would never run the horse again on heavy ground. He was in a quandary on Saturday morning, after a night of torrential rain had altered the ground drastically, but he changed his mind only because the Game Spirit Steeplechase was so valuable.

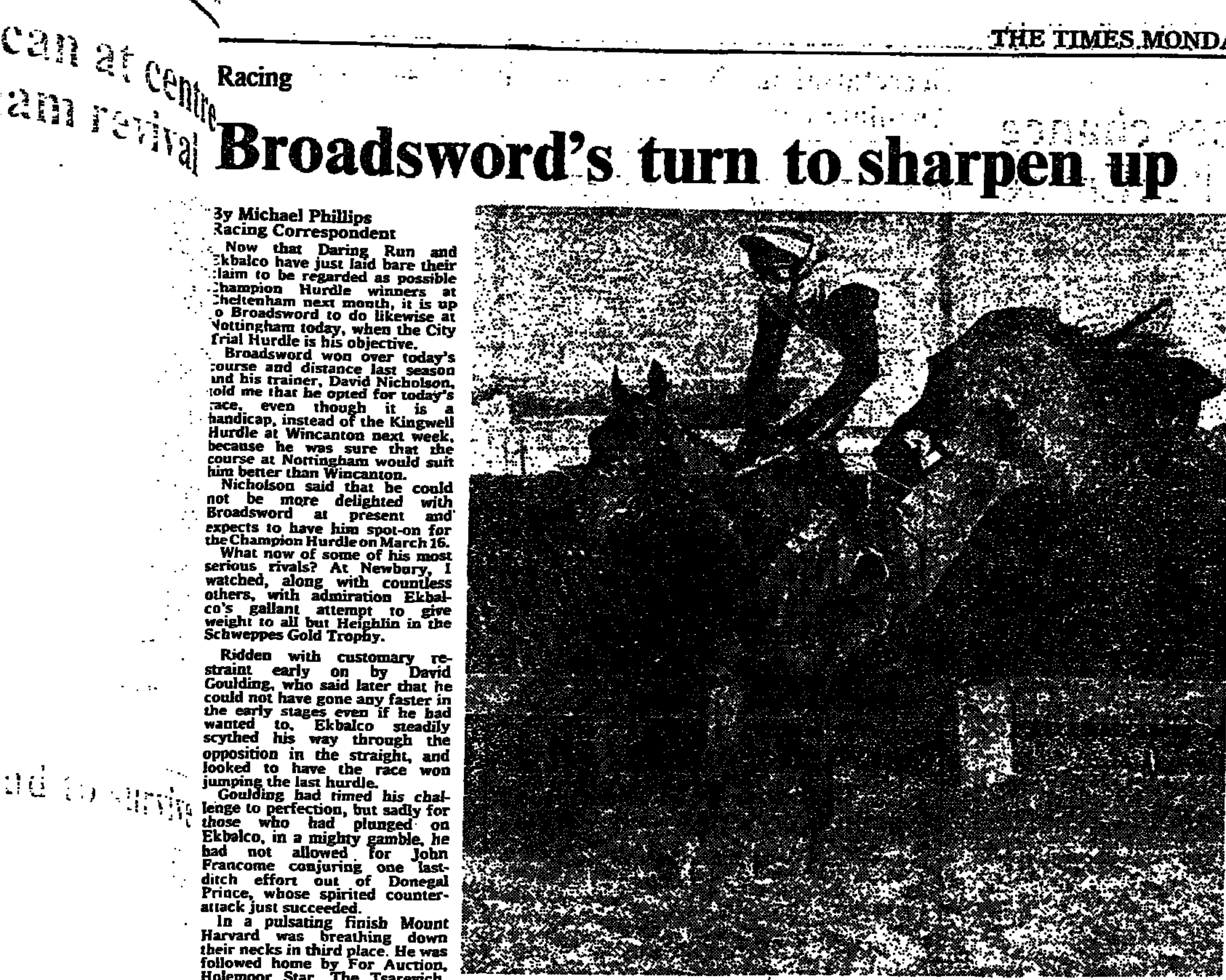
The outcome was a happy one, thanks largely to Francome's opportunism. He dictated the pace to suit himself at first, before deciding that the moment was ripe to give News King, and caught his rivals on the hop.

Winter had a second success later the day when his son-in-law and assistant, Oliver Sherwood, rode the former Gold Cup winner, Midnight Court, to victory in the Charles Higgins Memorial Foxhunters Cup.

Midnight Court has been entered for this year's Cheltenham Gold Cup but, understandably, no decision will be reached for a while. Clearly a spell of hunting has done him a world of good. Winter said afterwards that the horse got bored and did not apply himself properly last season.

Midnight Court's lackadaisical approach resulted in him falling three times and being pulled up once. On Saturday, he raced with zest and jumped as if there were springs in his heels.

Now it remains to be seen what effect hunting has on his mercurial stable companion Derring Rose, whose objective is the Champion Hurdle. Apparently, Derring Rose recently took fright at something when he was out with the hounds; reared over backwards, and fell into a canal. He swam half a mile before he was rescued, and that was only when the lock gates had been opened. Knowing him, he will come back the better for such a frightening experience, because he is anything but normal. What the Compton Steeplechase proved, once and for all, is that Diamond Edge is not the force on heavy ground that he is when it is good underfoot. For that reason, it would be foolish to back him for this year's Gold Cup until the day of the race.


News King: given another brilliant ride by John Francome

STATE OF GOING (official): Plumpton: heavy, Nottingham: hurdle soft. Chase good; Tomorrow: Towcester, soft Sedgefield, good to firm; Newton Abbot, heavy.

Nottingham programme

1.0 BENDIGO HURDLE (Div I: novices: Fillies & mares £621: 2m) (25 runners)

3	0	AVIVA (W D Francis) W D Francis 5-11-8	J Francome
4	00400-0	CALA CONTA (P Deal) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-8	C Brown
5		DANCING KATE (A T Arnold Steel) A Arnold 7-11-8	C Astbury
6	00-0104	DERBYSHIRE FILET (Derbyshire Meat) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-8	P Tuck
7	0f-0000	FILMSTAR (A Smedley) A Smedley 7-11-8	Mr R Smedley
8	0	GOBLYN GANG (Mrs P Bain) Mrs P Bain 7-11-8	R Kington
9	40	HORKEY (G Draper) J Harris 5-11-8	J Harris 4
11	033400	MISS BINKI (J Williams) M Tate 6-11-8	P Scudamore
12	0	MISTY SKY (Lt-Col C Sidgwick) K Bailey 5-11-8	A Webb
14	p	MY GRATITUDE (M Bowers) J Leigh 7-11-8	P Blackburn 7
15	22-3332	QUITE LUCKY (Business Publications) P M Taylor 5-11-8	S Keightley 4
16	02	SYNCOPATE (B Stamper) A Smith 6-11-8	D Dutton 4
18	00	WELSH VALLEY (B Watson) H Wharton 6-11-8	S Youlden 7
19	040-0	WIN GREEN HILL (R Fry) J Old 6-11-8	—
20	0p	ANDREA'S PET (F Yardley) F Yardley 4-10-7	C Smith
21	00	BADSWORTH GIRL (G Toft) G Toft 4-10-7	K Whyte
22	0	CASAL ROYALE (M Higgins) D McCain 4-10-7	C Pimlott
23	00	CHESTNUT HILL (Snailwell Stud) M H Easterby 4-10-7	A Brown
25		GOLDEN ALRAY (R Shaw) B McMahon 4-10-7	S O'Neill
27		KEELIE (T Rissiter) D Ancil 4-10-7	Steve Knight
28	2422	DESHOON (H Dale) P Vevan 4-10-7	T Wall 4
29	0	KIXLEY KIT (D Haywood) J Czerpak 4-10-7	G McNally
30	00	MAYGATE (Mrs L O'Neill 4-10-7	J Suthern
32		SHARELLE (Mrs P Ransom) P Ransom 4-10-7	S Smith-Eccles
33		SWEET HIGHNESS (E Campbell) M Tompkins 4-10-7	I Campbell 7

2 Keshoon, 5-2 Syncopate, 7-2 Quite Lucky, 7 Chestnut Hill, 10 Horkey, 12 Win Green Hill 16 others.

1.30 KINGSTON CHASE (Novices handicap: £1,044: 2m) (12)

1	/p3322-	THE GO-BOY (Mrs W Sykes) Mrs W Sykes 8-11-10	S Morshead
3	4011b0	TOM SCOLEY (D) (J Caswell) J Old 9-11-5	J Francome
4	0p2/2fp	PAPER RICH (G Tanner) G Blum 9-11-4	S Smith-Eccles
6	01-f4f	BRAVE FELLOW (T Kilroe & Sons Ltd) J FitzGerald 8-11-2	P Charlton
9	3/32-04	COUNT UP (Mrs C Williams) R Turnell 8-10-12	Steve Knight
10	3-00010	CYPO (Mrs A Akeroyd) A Jarvis 8-10-11	J Burke
11	040-1f0	VALE CHALLENGE (D) (M Holmes) J Harris 8-10-10	J Harris 4
15	430-p00	CHAIR OF KILDARE (W Whitbread) S Mellor 7-10-7 Chair Of Kildare	P Blacker
17	4/f4042	KALKASHANNDI (Mrs K Underwood) D Morley 6-10-7	P Scudamore
18	24f2-00	RIDARRAGH (Mrs J Yardley) F Yardley 8-10-7	C Smith
19	p/4b0-	DIAMOND DIVINE (R Pugh) R Pugh 9-10-7	S O'Neill
20	u-040f4	BALLET MASTER (Ld Harlech) A W Jones 9-10-7	S Keightley 4

9-4 Kalkashandi, 3 Brave Fellow, 9-2 Tom Scoley, 7 Cypo, 8 The Go-Boy, 12 Paper Rich, 14 Chair of Kildare, 20 others.

2.0 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (Novices: £1,259: 2m) (17)

2	00-0211	BASIL'S CHOICE (D) (C J Murphy) M Dickinson 7-11-10	R Earnshaw
5	2410	ALLTEN GLAZED (D) (J Widdall) M Naughton 5-11-6	G Bradley
6	141120	JIMBROOK (DB) (Mrs M Nowell) M H Easterby 5-11-6	Mr T Easterby
7	301211	PLAY THE KNAVE (D) (C de P Berry) P Bailey 5-11-6	V McKevitt 7
9	3-03010	WINGETTS (D) (F Wigett) A W Jones 6-1-6	S Keightley 4
14	3-04123	WARNER FOR SPORT (D) (Terry Warner Sports) M Tate 5-11-1	P Scudamore
15	024/00-	BOBBING STAR (R Shaw) B McMahon 6-11-0	S O'Neill
20	2-20000	GO AFFA (AFFA Ltd) J Bosley 7-11-0	Mr M Bosley 7
23	2300-02	IRISHMAN (Ld Zetland) N Crump 6-11-0	C Hawkins
24	0/0-	JUST SAUCE (H F Harvey) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-0	C Brown
25	p-0	LASHING RAIN (Capt R Head) R Head 7-11-0	J Francome
28	000	SECONDARY IMAGE (Mrs A Robson) J FitzGerald 6-11-0	P Charlton
30		VALE OF WELTON (N Henderson) N Henderson 6-11-0	B R Davies
33	4	ARDENT SPY (R Vockins) Mrs P Bain 5-10-10	R Kington
35	00	COLDTRIC (Mrs M Davis) A Jarvis 5-10-10	J Burke
38	004	DUESENBERG (Mrs S O'Brien) D Ancil 5-10-10	Steve Knight
39	00	GAY GAZEBO (Exors of late Mrs H Banks) M Banks 5-10-10	G McCourt

5-2 Basil's Choice, 11-4 Jimbrook, 9-2 Play The Knave, 6 Allten Glazed, 8 Warner For Sport, 12 Ardent Spy, 16 Irishman, Wingetts, 20 others

2.30 CITY TRIAL HURDLE (Handicap: £3,215: 2m) (12)

1	21-2131	BROADSWORD (Ld Northampton) D Nicholson 5-11-13 (3 ex)	P Scudamore
2	4-2f004	CONNAUGHT RANGER (B) (J McCaughey) Mrs M Rimell 8-11-6	S Morshead
3	1/001-3	NO BOMBS (D) (Snailwell Stud) M H Easterby 7-11-3	Mr T Thomson Jones
5	0/021-0	SECRET BALLOT (D) (H Joel) R Turnell 8-10-7	A Turnell
6	100/	BATCHACRE HALL (D) (J Wilcox) Mrs W Sykes 8-10-7	C Brown
8	120-	PATH OF PEACE (Miss L Gold) C Thornton 6-10-7	C Hawkins
9	3010p0	MILLIONDOLLARMAN (CD) (Mrs P Shaw) W Jenks 8-10-7	J Francome
11	0-00000	CHINA GOD (D) (Mrs M White) W D Francis 9-10-7	H Davies
12	/00220-	SIMPSON JERSEY (D) (Graphic & Display Products) B McMahon 8-10-7	G McCourt
14	121/00-	FLAMENCO SURPRISE (CD) (I Howells) M Tate 10-10-7	C Smith
18	044-000	JOSMOLL (D) (R Taylor) C Mackenzie 5-10-7	M Bastard
19	f00p-p0	NOMADIC STAR (D) (H Ford) H Ford 6-10-7	—

4-6 Broadsword, 6 Secret Ballot, 7 Connaught Ranger, 8 No Bombs, 12 Path Of Peace, 16 Batchacre Hall, 25 others.

3.0 GOTHAM CHASE (Handicap: £1,272: 2m) (7)

1	421213	ICE PLANT (D) (Lady Cadogan) N Crump 10-11-12	C Hawkins
4	2p-p314	FIXED PRICE (D) (Mrs B Kearney) Mrs M Rimell 8-11-0 (7 ex)	Mr A Sharpe 7
5	134113	DEAR REMUS (CD) (J Nicholson) J Harris 10-10-12	J Harris 4
9	f-34020	COLE PORTER (CD) (Exors of late Mrs H Banks) M Banks 7-10-8	G McCourt
10	1f14-02	MOONSHOT (C MacSwiney) T Forster 8-10-7	H Davies
12	30120-f	PRINCE OF PLEASURE (S Spokes) M Tate 9-10-3	R Hyett
14	0-403ff	SALDATORE (Mrs M Skinner) D Morley 5-10-0	P Scudamore

11-4 Moonshot, 3 Fixed Price, 4 Saldatore, 6 Ice Plant, 7 Dear Remus, 10 Cole Porter, 16 Prince Of Pleasure.

3.30 17th-21st LANCERS CHASE (Hunters: £1,033: 3m) (6)

3	2313-f3	TROYSWOOD (D) (R Waugh) J Edwards 10-12-7	Mr A J Wilson
4	0fp/u1-	FLORIDA KING (T Hunnable) T Hunnable 10-12-5	—
5	022004/	GAY TAB (Mrs R Brooks) N Gaselee 9-12-5	Mr C Brooks 7
6	214300-	JIMMYFISHER (D) (P Mann) P Mann 11-12-5	Mr P Mann 7
8	404220-	BIG BEN (R Fox) R Fox 8-12-0	—
10	u03ppf-	OLD BEAN (D) (R Pearson) Mrs J E Brookshaw 9-12-0	Mr D Sherwood

2 Big Ben, 3 Troyswood, 4 Florida King, 6 Gay Tab, 8 Jimmyfisher, 12 Old Bean

4.0 BENDIGO HURDLE (Div II: novices: Fillies & mares £621: 2m) (20)

2	00-p021	PORCUPINE BASIN (D) (J Spelman) J Edwards 7-12-1	P Blacker
5	0p-	ARCTIC GIPSY (B Palling) B Palling 6-11-8	C Candy
6	00/000-	AVIEMORE (R Godwin) J Priday 9-11-8	G Jones
7	ufpp	CAYPHOON (R Andrew) B Richmond 8-11-8	P Tuck
8		CELTIC SLAVE (Maj A Hellyer) T Forster 5-11-8	H Davies
12	0040-0	MEGGIES DENE (Mrs R Barrett) W Barrett 5-11-8	S Johnson 4
13	0	MISS EVELIN (Mrs S Whitelocke) W D Francis 6-11-8	P Scudamore
14	000-0	OVINGTN COURT (M Ward-Thomas) R Head 6-11-8	J Francome
15	003003	*PROSERPINE (Lt-Col J Chandos-Pole) P M Taylor 5-11-8	S Keightley 4
16	uf0f/00	SAUCY WENCH (W Hardy) W Hardy 8-11-8	A Brown
18	00	SURELY RIGHT (Mrs J Agar) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-8	S Morshead
19	01f34	ALLIED CARDIFF (D) (Miss L Blum) G Blum 4-11-0	J Barrow
22	000	AMBER PALACE (R Griffiths) F Yardley 4-10-7	C Smith
25	0	CRISSTINA TIMES (L Cookson) B McMahon 4-10-7	J Harris 4
28		GOLDYKE (S Mason) J Bosley 4-10-7	Mr M Bosley 7
29	0	KNIGHT'S LADY (G Ratcliff) Mrs A Ratcliff 4-10-7	Mrs A Ratcliff
30	430b02	LAWNSWOOD MISS (A Hill) R Hollinshead 4-10-7	Miss C Astbury
33	0	METTLEFOLD (S Walsh) A Madwar 4-10-7	M Murphy
34	0	PETHAM BELLE (P Wright) C Drew 4-10-7	S McNeill
35	00	SIMBIRICA (Mrs D Needham) P Felgate 4-10-7	K Sims 7

11-8 Porcupine Basin, 7-2 Ovington Court, 5 Lawnswood Miss, 7 Allied Cardiff, 8 Surely Right, 10 Celtic Slave, 16 others.

Nottingham selections

By Our Racing Staff

1.0 Syncopate, 1.30 Cypo, 2.0 Basil's Choice, 2.30 Broadsword, 3.0 Saldatore, 3.30 Troyswood, 4.0 Porcupine Basin.

Plumpton programme

1.45 SHEFFIELD PARK HURDLE (Div I: novices: £690: 2m) (12 runners)

2	p0	ALLADO (A Neaves) A Neaves 6-11-5	C Mann 7
4	040200	MARSTAIN (G W Martin Ltd) R Hoad 5-11-5	R Goldstein
5	040	MAYFIELD BOY (C Godden) R Smyth 7-11-5	R Hughes
7	0	MORNING LINE (G Bruston) P M Talor 5-11-5	R Stronge 7
8	042400	MR NIMBLE (N Matheson) A Moore 5-11-5	G Moore 4
9	00042-3	MY JOHN CHARLOTT (B Kremer) J Gifford 5-11-5	R Champion
10	000pp0	REBELDE (D Mills) D Mills 6-11-5	A Madgwick 7
11	002-000	TESTON LAD (Mrs B Mitchell) Pat Mitchell 5-11-5	P Leach
12	00-0	WIDD (Victor Chandler Ltd) M Masson 5-11-5	B de Haan
14	100244	TOP REEF (J Fry) J Jenkins 4-10-9	M Harrington 4
16	000	ENTERPRISE EXPRESS (Mrs A Beeson) E Beeson 4-10-4	J Akehurst 7
17	0020	SWEETHILL (G Carlotti) G Ripley 4-10-4	—

9-4 My John Charlott, 5-2 Top Reef, 5 Mayfield Boy, 13-2 Marstain, 8 Mr Nimble, 10 Widd, 16 others

2.15 BPA BETTING OFFICES CHASE (Novices: £1,021: 2m 3f 90yd) (15)

1	304344	MERRY MEADOW (CD) (B Bird) A Moore 8-12-0	G Moore 4
6	200/10p	CAMBOOYA (Mrs F Boucher) Mrs D Oughton 8-11-4	R Rowe
7	00-00p4	CAUBEEN (W Jasper) Mrs N Smith 6-11-4	S Shilston
10	030000	COMMANDER CHRISTY (Mrs H McLaughlin 6-11-4	—
14	3p/10-1	HARPALAYCE (M Greenway) Miss A Sinclair 7-11-4	J Akehurst 7
16	00-0up3	LANGLEY GREEN (J Daw) R Armytage 8-11-4	A Webber
19	0-004f0	POOLE BAY (B) (S Richards) B Stevens 6-11-4	Mr B Stevens 4
20	000-030	RIGHTEOUS FURY (F Gray) F Gray 8-11-4	R Rowell
21	00-00f0	ROMAN BISTRO (D Martin-Bettes) J Gifford 6-11-4	R Champion
22	00-0000	SHEERGOLD (R Howe) R Howe 8-11-4	—
23	004f3-p	SPINNING REEL (H Barnes) Miss P Barnes 6-11-4	B Wright 4
24	pu03-f2	STATIST (B) (Mrs S Mutton) T Hallett 7-11-4	P Barton
26	000p-0f	SWIFT KING (D Greig) D Greig 7-11-4	Mr N Thomson
27	000f44	YULE STAR (N Thomson) N Thomson 9-11-4	B de Haan
28	032023	NOOKIE BEAR (R de Courcey) P Mitchell 5-10-7	—

Evens Nookie Bear, 10-3 Merry Meadow, 5 Swift King, 13-2 Statist, 8 Roman Bistro, 14 others.

2.45 FLYAWAY CHASE (Hunters: £1,209: 3m 1f) (10)

1	f0/13-2	HESITATION (J Dufosee) J Dufosee 12-12-7	J Dufosee 7
2	b3/1p-0	LUCKY TESS (G Tregaskes) G Tregaskes 9-12-4	S Andrews 7
3	0200/p-	CHIEFTAINS COTTAGE (Mrs C McQuilty) Mrs C McQuilty 10-12-0	—
5	0-0rp0	GONE OUT (Mrs R Murdoch) Mrs R Murdoch 12-12-0	Mrs L Jewell 7
6	0/230-0	SET POINT (Lady Hermes) Lady Hermes 14-12-0	B Kirkby 7
7	0p0/2-0	BEST BOY (T Hills) T Hills 9-11-7	T Hills 7
8	0400u1/	BILL HOBBS (M Andrew) M Andrew 10-11-7	J Wyatt 7
9	1	KIANI (D Self) D Self 12-11-7	Miss D Yeomans 7
10	0/0pp-0	KILTON JO (A Johnson) A Johnson 10-11-7	T Head 7
12	3000/p-	VALARION (M Churches) M Churches 9-11-7	Miss S Waterman 7

7-4 Hesitation, 3 Kiani, 5 Best Boy, 8 Kilton Joe, 10 Set Point, 12 Lucky Tess, 16 others.

3.15 COWFOLD HURDLE (Selling: handicap:£755: 2m) (11)

1	002-00u	EVA ANNE (G Carlotti) G Ripley 8-11-10	C Bell
3	00000	GRYLOS (C C W Ltd) O Jorgensen 4-11-8	D Hyde
6	30500-0	OPENING NIGHT (Mrs E White) J Jenkins 8-11-0	R Muggeridge
9	000-01	POLARITA (A Aylett) A Aylett 9-11-0 (6 ex)	A Madgwick
10	0000-00	ERRANTRY (D Dye) D Wilson 7-10-13	K Caplen
11	0-02313	YUKON FLASH (CD) (Mrs G Davison) A Davison 8-10-12	M Lynn
15	330142	GUYWOOD (DB) (K Sykes) P M Taylor 4-10-9	R Chapman
16	4000-00	TUDOR MAESTRO (CD) (Mrs M Munden) N Lee-Judson 10-10-8	—
18	00	ICKWORTH PARK (H Barron) R Howe 8-10-5	M Perrett
19	pfp-p	EASTLING (A Neaves) A Neaves 8-10-4	J Lovejoy
24	0000ff	ISLE OF GRAIN (R Dance) R Hoad 8-10-0	A Small

2 Polarita, 5-2 Guywood, 5 Opening Night, Yukon Flash, 8 Grylos, 10 Errantry, 16 others.

3.45 SCOTTS RESTAURANT CHASE (Handicap: £1,856: 3m 1f) (8)

2	00/	SPRING CLEAR (M Rawlings) M Rawlings 11-12-6	M Bastard
3	101333	PERSIAN WANDERER (B) (Mrs J Beaby) N Henderson 9-11-7	Mr C Beaby 7
7	f3-ppp1	TOWN COUNSELLOR (C) (Mrs L Browning) D Browning 9-10-13	J Akehurst 7
8	4421-2u	ABBEY BRIG (P H Betts) J Gifford 8-10-10	R Rowe
11	p42320	SOLIHULL SPORT (CB) (Solihull Ltd) D Gandolfo 8-10-5	P Barton
12	p-0lpp0	WINTERBOURNE LAD (Winterbourne Ltd) R Armytage 9-10-0	A Webber
14	30p-040	RATHLEK (CD) (D Greig) D Greig 12-10-0	A Madgwick 7
15	/44f-01	DAVIDS FOLLY (C) (Miss P Barnes) Miss P Barnes 9-10-0	B de Haan

7-4 Abbey Brig, 10-3 Persian Wanderer, 5 Davids Folly, 13-2 Solihull Sport, 8 Town Counsellor, 10 Rathlek, 14 others.

4.15 SHEFFIELD PARK HURDLE (Div II: novices: £690: 2m) (13)

2	22	BRAVE GEORGE (P Cowell) P Harriss 5-11-5	P Carvill 4
4	1000	KINGMON'S GIRL (J King) J Long 5-11-5	Mr C Willett 4
5	0000-00	L'EMPEREUR (G Peak) A Moore 5-11-5	M Perrett 7
6	000-000	MASTER GREGALACH (Mrs I Smith) M Hinchliffe 5-11-5	M O'Halloran
7	4000-00	RENDEZVOUS (N Upson) J Long 6-11-5	P Upson
8	00-0000	RHYTHM STICK (M Rawlings) M Rawlings 5-11-5	M Bastard
9	00	TOWER WIN (D Turner) C Benstead 5-11-5	M Coyle 4
11	1	JANUS (D) (K Little) Mrs N Smith 4-10-9	S Shilston
12	0	AIRSTREAM (Mrs C Bennett) D Arbuthnot 4-10-4	K Mooney
13		HATTAN (G Yarrow) P Mitchell 4-10-4	R Hughes
14	2230	HIGH HEAVEN (J Heal) A Moore 4-10-4	G Moore 4
16	004000	KASHILL (G Dawes) H O'Neill 4-10-4	—
17	0004	LE GRAN BRUN (D Elton) P Cundell 4-10-4	—

13-8 Brave George, 2 Janus, 4 Le Gran Brun, 7 High Heaven, 12 Airstream, 16 others.

4.45 SHEFFIELD PARK HURDLE (Div III: novices: £690: 2m) (11)

1	4-0p0p4	BROGUE (K Higson) A Moore 6-11-5	G Moore 4
2	p0	COLLECTOR'S GOLD (Mrs J Mason-Hamlyn) D Grissell 5-11-5	Mrs D Grissell 4
3		HANDSOME MOON (A Neaves) A Neaves 5-11-5	C Mann 7
4	00/03	HARVEST SUPPER (P Hopkins) J Gifford 7-11-5	R Champion
6	00/00-0	KASSAK (G Dawes) H O'Neill 6-11-5	—
7	p	LEFRAK LADY (B) (Mrs V O'Brien) J Long 5-11-5	—
8	00p0	MORNING ENQUIRY (N Wheeler) N Wheeler 5-11-5	Mr N Wheeler 7
9	2000-00	ORANGE TOWN MAN (Mrs L Browning) D Browning 5-11-5	J Akehurst 7
10	00	SEEMS A NICE BOY (R Wise) B Wise 5-11-5	R Rowell
13	00000	CHARJIM (A Moore) A Moore 4-10-4	M Perrett 7
14	40p	CITY LINK STAR (City Link Ltd) D Wilson	M Coyle 4

6-4 Harvest Supper, 3 Collector's Gold, 6 Brogue, 8 City Link Star, 10 Charjim, 16 others.

Plumpton selections

By Our Racing Staff

1.45 My John Charlott, 2.15 Nookie Bear, 2.45 Hesitation, 3.15 Polarita, 3.45 Persian Wanderer, 4.15 Janus, 4.45 Collector's Gold.

Daring Run moves into top gear

From an Irish Correspondent
Dublin, Feb 14

The bookmakers who declined to make more than a marginal alteration in the Champion Hurdle odds of Daring Run after he had finished out of the first ten in the Sweeps Hurdle at Leopardstown, were vindicated yesterday. Over the same course and distance, Daring Run put up a grand display to win the Leopardstown Champion Hurdle in a canter.

The Irish amateur rider, Ted Walsh, reunited with Daring Run, allowed himself the luxury of a gentle look left and right as his mount alongside the pace-maker Enhancer approaching the final flight. Daring Run then quickened away on the flat to win by six lengths.

Although the runner-up was one of the 50-1 outsiders, nevertheless, there was a case to be made for him on his previous run when he beat the Sweeps Hurdle winner, For Auction, by 20 lengths at Down Royal.

Enhancer, who loves to make his own running, had built up a commanding advantage by halfway. Although he was tiring entering the straight, only Daring Run was able to overhaul him.

This was the second-year running that Daring Run has won this, the most valuable conditions hurdle in the Irish calendar, and his trainer, Peter McCreery, relieved at seeing Daring Run show something of his true form, confidently asserted that he would be an even better horse come Champion Hurdle day.

The Harold Clarke Leopardstown Steeplechase also threw up a Cheltenham big-race clue with top weight, Royal Bond, giving Tommy Carberry his first winning ride in the only important Irish jumping event, hitherto, to elude him.

It was a highly meritorious win, for Carberry lost his irons at halfway when Royal Bond made a bad mistake at the first ditch on the far side, being unsighted going into it. He lost several lenghts as a result, but came back into a challenging position at the second-last fence and overhauled Owen's Image to win by two and a half lengths.

The runner-up, who had prevously won the £15,000 Findus Handicap Chase over this course and distance, was in receipt of more than a stone from the winner to underline the Gold Cup claim of Royal Bond.

Sean Ogue, having won the Arkle Perpetual Challenge Cup, now bids for the English equivalent at Cheltenham while the Mick O'Toole-trained Morton confirmed once again that he is the best juvenile hurdler in Ireland by winning the Stillorgan Hurdle. His target is the Triumph Hurdle.

LEOPARDSTOWN RESULTS:
1.30. Corrib Rock (4-1); 2. Toridealbach (15-8 fav); 3. Quarry Stone (6-1). 6 ran.
2.0. 2. Sean Ogue (1-2 fav); 2. Skelum (10-1); 3. Fingerling (3-1). 4 ran.
2.30 1. Morton (4-5 fav); 2. Tiger Whale (10-1). 3. Pinch Hitter (5-2); 5 ran.
3 05 1. Daring Rose (9 4); 2. Enhancer (50-1). 3. Another Story (2-1 fav); 13 ran. NR. For Auction.
3 40. Royal Bond (7-1); 2. Owens Image (5-2 fav); 3. Ramraiya (14-1); 15 ran.
4 10 1. Killeenyarda (4-1); 2. Slag Hill (13-2) 3. Four Plus (14-1); Flying Flame 9-4 fav. 27 ran.
4 40 1. Bestrop (4-1) 2. Whats The News (4-1); 3. Rough Course (25-1); 25 ran.

Inspection at Newton Abbot

Racing at Newton Abbot tomorrow is doubtful and the stewards will hold a precautionary inspection at 11 am this morning to decide whether the meeting can take place. The Clerk of the Course, Claude Whitley, said "We have had a lot of rain and there is water on the course, and I am not happy at the situation."

☐ Frivolous Relation, trained by John Dunlop, won the £3,205 Prix de Bastia over one and a half miles at Cagnes-Sur-Mer yesterday. Ridden by the French jockey, Guy Guignard, she stayed on strongly under pressure to score by a length.

Frivolous Relation, who paid 9.20fr for a win, and 2.80 for a place, was the seventh British winner of the meeting.

☐ Michael Roberts, eight times South African champion jockey led the home team to a commanding advantage in the first half of the Coco Rico jockeys team event, at Germiston on Saturday.

Roberts brought the 6-1 chance Arch Angel Michael with a late run to snatch victory from Liberty Silk, and Greville Starkey in the final strides of the opening event,

Newbury results

1.30: 1. Voice of Progress (4-1); 2. Hiz (13-8 fav); 3. St David's Day (20-1). 15 ran. NR: Kinnigger.
2.00: 1. News King (7-4); 2. Beacon Light (5-1); 3. Artifice (5-1). Drumgora 13-8 fav. 5 ran. NR: Rathgorman.
2.40: 1. Donegal Prince (13-1); 2. Ekbalco (6-1 jt-fav); 3. Mount Harvard (16-1). 4. For Auction (12-1). Gaye Chance 6-1 jt-fav. 27 ran. NR: Connaught Ranger, Grey Mate, Hay Ride.
3.10. 1. Royal Judgement (9-2); 2. Diamond Edge (4-9 fav); 3. Straight Jocelyn (9-2). 3 ran.
3.40: 1. Midnight Court (2-1); 2. Dancing Brig (13-8 fav); 3. Lord Dawson (100-30). 10 ran.
4.10: 1. The Thatcher (6-4 fav); 2. Neon Gun (8-1); 3. Standon Rock (9-2). 12 ran. NR: Besieged, Cashmoor, Most Fun, Sparkler Clear.

Ayr

1.30: 1. High Hill (6-1); 2. Press Gang (11-4). 3. Home Ground (9-4 fav) 9 ran. NR: Armil Waler.
2 00. 1. Raconteur (9-4 jt-fav); 2. Miss Diaward (9-4 jt-fav); 3. Rye Moss (10-1).
2.30: 1. Skegby (16-1); 2. Little Boy (6-1); 3. Political Pop (8-13 fav). 7 ran.
3.00: 1. Even Melody (7-4 fav); 2. Polar Smartie (7-2); 3. Starlight Lad (2-1). 5 ran. NR: Why So.
3.30: 1. Cool Silcom (20-1); 2. Davidoff (13-8 jt-fav); 3. Spartan Red (20-1); Kindred (13-8 jt-fav). 9 ran.
4.00: 1. Canny Danny (6-1); 2. Ha'penny Nap (6-1); 3. Spider Pearl (20-1). Imperial Amber, Dukes Gold (3-1 jt-favs). 15 ran. NR: Spring Note.

Catterick Bridge

1.15: 1. Cape Farewell (14-1); 2. Covette (9-2); 3. Harlew (6-1). Rosa Trout 100-30 fav. 20 ran.
1.45: 1. B and K Emperor (20-1); 2. Shaloira (11-2); 3. Comerce (7-2 fav). 15 ran.
2.15: 1. Cool Decision (5-4); 2. Saint Jonathon (evens fav); 3. Abu Turkey (12-1). 8 ran.
2.45: 1. Solo Sam (7-1); 2. Megan's Boy (evens fav); 3. Clever General (5-1). 8 ran.
3.15: 1. Compton Lad (4-6 fav); 2. Honourable Man (7-4); 3. Kirkstyle (33-1). 12 ran.
3.45: 1. Abersing (12-1); 2. Sandcliffe (14-1); 3. Master Piper (7-1). Chebbie 5-2 fav. 16 ran.
4.15: 1. Hotwave (10-11 fav); 2. Hardwick Sun (7-1); 3. That's Magic (15-2). 19 ran.

Skiing

Triumphant Mahre twins turn World Cup into family affair

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Feb 14. — Steve and Phil Mahre, the American twins, finished first and second in a World Cup slalom event here today. Steve, the new world giant slalom champion, recorded the fastest times in both of today's runs to repeat his victory here last year.

His time of 1min 35.79sec was more than a second quicker than that of his brother, the overall World Cup winner. Paolo de Chiesa, of Italy, was third. Steve Podborski, of Canada, won the men's downhill here yesterday for the second year in a row and Mahre said: "Podborski's win was a good omen for me."

Mahre also took the Garmisch combination title to compile 50 cup points and move into third place overall behind his brother and Ingemar Stenmark, who was eliminated in the slalom today.

Stenmark, slalom gold medallist in the world championships in Schladming, Austria, a week ago, lasted only 21 seconds today before making a rare exit in the first run. His fate was shared by the men who took the slalom silver and bronze medals behind him in Schladming, Bojan Krizaj, of Yugoslavia, and a fellow Swede, Bengt Fjaellberg. Indeed, only 27 of the 87 starters completed both legs on the icy slope.

The Mahre twins have won four of this season's six World Cup slaloms. Phil, already certain of winning the World Cup, took his overall points total to 287. Stenmark is second on 204 and Steve Mahre has jumped from equal tenth to third with 117.

MEN'S SLALOM: 1, S Mahre (US), 1min 35.79sec; 2, P Mahre (US), 1:36.86; 3, P de Chiesa (Italy), 1:37.18; 4, F Gruber (Austria), 1:37.24, 5, C Orlainsky (Austria), 1:37.46, 6, M Vion (France), 1:37.85, 20, N Wilson (GB), 1.49 25

WORLD CUP: 1, P Mahre, 287 pts; 2, I Stenmark (Sweden), 204; 3, S Mahre, 117; 4, S Podborski (Canada), 107; 5 A Wenzel (Liechtenstein, 85; 6, H Weirather (Austria), 85.

WORLD CUP COMBINATION: Final standings: 1, P Mahre, 75 pts; 2, Wenzel, 60; 3, Hole, 40; H von Hohenlohe (Mexico) 30, 5, Vion, 28; 6, Gattermann, 28

WORLD CUP SLALOM: P Mahre, 110; 2, Stenmark, 105; 3, S Mahre, 82; 4, de Chiesa, 68; 5, Gruber, 51, 6, P Frommelt (Liechtenstein) 44.

Podborski broke the piste record he set last year in winning yesterday's race, the last World Cup downhill event of the European season. He relegated the world champion, Harti Weirather of Austria, and the silver medallist from last weekend, Conradin Cathomen of Switzerland; to third and second places respectively. Weirather, the third starter, looked a likely winner until Podborski clocked 1min 50.52 sec, nearly half a second quicker than Weirather and nearly five seconds faster than his winning time in the race last year.

The win enabled Podborski, a remote ninth in Schladming, to increase his World Cup downhill series lead over Weirather to 22 points, with three north American events remaining.

MEN'S DOWNHILL: 1, Podborski, 1min 50.52sec; 2, Cathomen (Switzerland), 1:50.81; 3, Weirather, 1:50.94; 4, Stock (Austria), 1:51.10; 5, Mair (Italy), 1:51.15; 6, Muller (Switzerland), 1:51.20; 13, Bartelski (GB), 1:51.96; 55, F Burton (GB) 1:57.29.

WORLD CUP DOWNHILL: 1, Podborski, 107 pts; 2, Weirather, 85; 3, Resch (Austria), 75; 4, Klammer (Austria), 72; 5, Muller, 67.

Marie-Cecile Gros-Gaudenier, of France, won the women's World Cup downhill title today in Arosa, Switzerland, as her main rival, the American, Holly Flanders, was eliminated in the deciding run. Miss Flanders, aged 24, had led the running for the title after winning the first of two weekend races here yesterday.

The 22-year-old French girl took no risks today down the icy 2,460-metre run and her fifth place was enough to win her the title. Miss Flanders, apparently worried by two very fast runs just before her by the Swiss skiers, Doris de Agostini and Maria Walliser, tried too hard to make up the time, took an early gate too close and missed the next one.

Miss de Agostini, who fell at the same spot in yesterday's race, overcame nerves and a spell of poor form to win today's event in 1 min 36.67 sec.

WOMEN'S DOWNHILL: 1, D de Agostini (Switzerland), 1min 36.67sec; 2, M Walliser (Switzerland), 1:36.93; 3, G Sorensen (Canada), 1:37.10; 4, M L Waldmeier (France), 1:37.37; 5, M C Gros-Gaudenier (France), 1:37.40; 6, I Epple (WG) 1:37.48

WORLD CUP: 1, E Hess (Switzerland), 268 pts; 2, Miss Epple (WG), 254, 3, C Cooper (US), 156, 4, C Nelson (US), 135; 5, U Konsett (Liechtenstein), 122; 6, P Pelen (France) and L Soelkner (Austria), 118.

Miss Flanders looked in top form yesterday as she sped down the Arosa track in 1min 36.52sec. Cindy Nelson, her compatriot, was second


Not his turn: Phil Mahre, the overall World Cup winner, on his way to second place behind brother Steve in yesterday's slalom event.

Cresta Run

Baracchi has a lot to spare

From Tony Emerson
St Moritz, Feb 14

The Cresta Run's most important race of the year, the Grand National was won yesterday in the fastest time ever recorded for the three courses, 161.91 seconds. The winner was Nico Baracchi, A Swiss television technician, who had already won the Curzon Cup.

The race had already been billed as struggle between Baracchi and last year's winner, Franco Gansser. On the second course Gansser put in the faster time and was only eighty hundredths of a second behind, but unfortunately he trapped his left hand between the runner of his toboggan and the sliding seat and had to retire with a badly broken finger. Barracchi won with an ample margin over the consistent Christian Nater and Marcel Melcher, a winner from before.

In todays' Auction Handicap race, the Johannes Badrutt Trophy, Franco Gansser's brother, Reto, a previous Grand Natioal winner, beat his previous best time twice. His efforts, however, were not sufficient to win him the race, which went to Jorg Anghern, a newcomer to top riding whose cautious efforts in practice had completely fooled the handicapper.

Both races were happily free from serious injury, with only one fall being registered in the National and seven in the Badrutt. This year's course is less treacherous than last year's with a forgiving second bank and an exceptionally smooth shuttlecock.

GRAND NATIONAL (Swiss unless stated): 1 N Baracchi 161.91 sec; 2 C Nater 163.70; 3 M Melcher 164.22; 4 U Burgerstein 165.06; 5 C Tesdorpf (W G) 165.44; 6 U A Nater 166.80.

JOHANNES BARUTT: 1 J P Anghern (Handicap 7 30) 156 75 secs; 2 R E Gansser (Handicap 1.60) 160.1; 3 P C Gallain (Handicap 2.30) 160.74.

Athletics

Miss Waitz too fast for officials

Ottawa, Feb 14. — Officials were at once the sources of dismay and delight to Grete Waitz after she had won a 3,000 metres race here in the Citizen Indoor Games.

The Norwegian distance runner thought her chances of breaking her own indoor best for the distance had disappeared on discovering that a miscalculation by the oficials had forced the runners to complete a lap too many. Her time on finishing the extra lap was 9 mins 15.6 sec, nearly 20 seconds outside her best of 8-56.8 set in Norway two years ago.

It was then that Miss Waitz found out that three timekeepers had stopped their watches at the correct distance where her time of 8-55.8 was inside her previous best. After a judge had confirmed her official time, Miss Waitz said: "I've run three times indoors in North America and this is the second time this has happened."

She was a full lap ahead of the field at the unofficial finish, still pulling away from her opposition.

Leann Warren, of the United States, set another women's world indoor best in the 800 metres at the same meeting with a time of 2 min 5.8 sec.

Her run beat the 2-07.5 set by her compatriot Wendy Knudson at the meeting in 1979.

Meeting directors pointed out that the times qualified as bests since they were set on an A-class track with more than the 11 laps a mile required. In fact, the Ottawa track is 12.78 laps to the mile. — Agencies.

NEW YORK, Mirose Games. Men (US unless stated): 60 Yards: 1. Floyd 6.10 secs; 400m: 1. Cameron (Jamaica) 47.20; 800m: 1. Robinson 1:47.51; 1,000m: 1. Paige 2:20.42; Mile: 1. Scott 3:55.37; 5,000m: 1. Padilla 13:20.55; 60 Yards hurdles: 1. Nehemiah 6.84; Long Jump: 1. Lewis 8.52 metres; High Jump: 1. Goode 2.31m; Pole Vault: 1. Bell 5.65m; Women (US unless stated): 60 Yards: 1. Cheeseborough 6.61; 60 Yards hurdles: 1. Young, S Hightower 7.58 (World best); 400m: 1. Griffith (Guyana) 52.88; 800m 1. Walton 2:04 70; Mile: 1. Decker 4:21.47 (World best); High Jump: 1. Brill (Canada) 1.93m.

DORTMUND: 200 metres: Skramrahl (WG) 20.99 secs.

Boxing

Stand up and be counted out at the hands of Spinks

Michael Spinks, of the United States, easily overpowered Mustapha Wasajja, of Uganda, in an impressive defence of the World Boxing Association (WBA) light-heavyweight title at the Playboy Hotel Casino, Atlantic City.

The referee, Tony Perez, stoped the bout after one minute 36 seconds of the sixth round after Spinks had dominated the Ugandan, who lacked power and only displayed a pawing jab.

Spinks opened the sixth with a hard overhand right that snapped back Wasajja's head. The champion then pinned the Ugandan against the ropes, scoring with both hands, and when the referee intervened Wasajja appeared to be out on his feet. Wasajja was standing up, but he was out cold Mr Perez said.

Spinks, the brother of the former heavyweight champion Leon Spinks, received $300,000 and Wasajja collected $90,000.

Alexis Arguello, of Nicaragua, won his eighteenth successive title bout when he retained the world boxing council (WBC) Lightweight crown by stopping an American James Busceme in two minutes 35 seconds of the sixth round at Beaumont, Texas.

Arguello nailed Busceme with a left hook late in the sixth round and followed up with a hard shot to the body. The Nicaraguan then landed a right cross to the head and the referee, Octavio Mayron, stopped the contest as Busceme staggered towards his corner.

It was the eighteenth consecutive title bout that Arguello, aged 30, has won in three different weight divisions. His record is now 74-4 with 60 knockouts. Busceme's is 27-4.

Arguello was slightly ahead on the cards of all three judges and the referee going into the sixth round. "Busceme was a good fighter with a lot of heart", Arguello said later. "I think he still has a future in the lightweight division. There are a lot of fighters up there he can beat."

"He hits exceptionally hard", Busceme said of Arguello. "After that first punch in the sixth I didn't know where I was. I was just fighting on instinct."

Ossie Ocasio, the Puerto Rican who was stopped by Britains John L Gardner at Wembley, became the first holder of the WBA's new cruiserweight crown with a split points decision over a South African Robbie Williams in Johannesburg. The Puerto Rican subdued his enthusiastic opponent with clever defence and penetrating jabs to the head and body.

Williams twice had Ocasio in trouble after solid right and lefts to the head but never appeared capable of putting his opponent down. The Japanese referee, Tyoji Yoshida, judged the bout 148-144 in Williams' favour after warning Ocasio five times for low blows. The two ringside judges gave Ocasio the verdict 146-144 and 147-143.—Reuter.

Stand up the real Cooney

Gerry Cooney, the 25-year-old 'great white hope' who meets Larry Holmes for the World Boxing Council heavyweight title in Las Vegas on March 15, is to have a series of major medical examinations.

Cooney, suffering from slight shoulder and back injuries has looked far from impressive in training. His trainer, Victor Valle, admitted after one particularly unconvincing session at Kiamesha Lake, New York: "That's not the real Cooney. His hook did not have his power. He was throwing his right hand well but without his left hook his right hand doesn't mean a thing."

Dennis Rappaport, his manager, stressed that there was no question at the moment of asking for a postponement but he stressed he would not allow Cooney to climb into the ring unless he was fully fit.

Reno, Nevada, Feb 13. — Bruce Finch, who challenges Sugar Ray Leonard at Reno today, believes that his will power and determination give him a good chance of winning. "Leonard doesn't have as much will as he used to. Finch, ranked number three by the WBC, said. "He's going to have to stop me with a freight train. He's going to have to bring the kitchen sink."

Leonard described Finch as "no major problem".

Manager, Angelo Dundee, said "Ray's as sharp as a tack.

Roy Gumbs, Britain's Toronto-based middleweight champion who flew into Merseyside on Friday to meet Glen McEwan at Liverpool stadium on Thursday, will win a Lonsdale Belt outright if he beats the Midlander. "Assuming I win, the logical step would be to get a crack at Tony Sibson for the Commonwealth title", Gumbs said.

Motor rallying

Blomqvist by a whisker

Karlstad, Feb 14. — Sweden's Stig Blomqvist snatched victory in his Audi Quattro after the Finn, Hannu Mikkola crashed near the end of the Swedish car rally today.

Blomqvist squeezed into the lead on the twenty-first stage to take his sixth victory in the event when Mikkola left the road on a bend and his Audi had to be dug out.

The Frenchwoman Michele Mouton, also driving a turbo-charged, four-wheel-drive Quattro, crashed into Mikkola's car. She escaped unhurt and completed the rally but dropped from third to fifth place at the finish, despite losing less than a minute in the incident.

FINAL PLACINGS: 1, S Blomqvist (Sweden — Audi Quattro) 3 hr 40 min 15 sec.; 2, A Vatanen (Finland — Ford Escort) 3:42:51; 3, W Roehrl (W Germany — Opel Ascona) 3:44:29; 4, P Eklund (Sweden — Saab 99 Turbo) 3:45:20; 5, M Mouton (France — Audi Quattro) 3:46:08; 6, L Lampi (Finland — Ford Escort) 3:46:14; 66, R Hencock (GB — Ford Escort) 5:44:17.

WORLD DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS: 1, Roehrl 32 pts; 2, Blomqvist 20; 3, Mikkola and Vatanen 15; 5, J-L Therier (France — Renault) 12; 6, Eklund and G Frequelin (France — Porsche) 10; 8, Mouton and B Saby (France — Renault) 8; 10, Lampi 6. — Reuter.

Cricket

Bonfires are lit as England's sun sinks into Indian Ocean

From Richard Streeton
Colombo, Feb 14

Sri Lanka gained a dramatic victory against England by three runs from the penultimate ball here today in the second 45-over international between the sides.

In an incredible finish England lost their last six wickets in 11 balls, including four run outs, as they frantically tried to scramble the runs. It meant that Sri Lanka this weekend had shared the one-day series 1—1 and will have fuelled further the national rejoicing and excitement already pervading the capital as their inaugural Test match approaches on Wednesday.

England, on 212 for nine, needed four from the final two balls as Willis, the last man, faced the bowling. He swung his bat fiercely against the fast bowler de Mel and Madugalle held a spectacular catch at deep midwicket. The setting sun had already sunk into the Indian Ocean and the light was appalling, which made Madugalle's catch all the more meritorious.

The capacity 20,000 crowd swarmed on to the field and engulfed the cricketers and others lit celebratory bonfires with newspapers in the stands. As the crowd roared and clapped in front of the pavilion before the presentations a fire engine drove on to the ground in readiness to fight flames or quell any excessive enthusiasm. There was never an likelihood of trouble.

They are a happy people, the Sri Lankans, and the spectators were delirious with joy as they watched the awards presentations. As I write the prize-giving is over and the ground is in complete darkness—a solitary lead and bulb has been speedily erected in our press box—but the crowd are still massed in front of the dressing-rooms cheering and shouting.

Just as on Saturday, this was one of the most thrilling limited-over internationals played. England seemed to be making smooth progress to their target when Gooch and Cook gathered runs calmly and efficiently with no alarms. Then abruptly the whole pattern changed.

Gooch, who hit a six and nine fours, and Cook were both beaten through the air in successive overs by the left-arm spinner Ajit de Silva and stumped. Gower fell without addition playing a casual drive without moving his feet and England had two new batsmen at the wicket in Botham and Fletcher.

When the last 10 overs started England required 74 and the light was starting to fade. The crowd erupted, sensing England's failure when Botham gave Warnapura the simplest of return catches after pushing forward early and then trying to check his stroke. D. S. de Silva, whose brisk top-spinners and leg-breaks bothered all the batsmen, bowled the thirty-eighth over, which cost 17 runs, 16 of them to Fletcher, including three swept fours.

De Silva bowled Tavaré with the first ball of his next over and England needed 46 from 35 balls as Gatting arrived. Ajit de Silva, unrelated, who bowls left-arm spin, conceded 17 runs in the forty-first over, including an on-driven six by Gatting, and England were left needing 27 from the last four overs, then 19 from three and 14 from two. It was at this stage that England completely lost their way.

Gatting was run out from the first ball trying for a second run after playing the left-arm seamer Ranasinghe to third man. Fletcher went the same way from the third from a stroke played into the covers. De Mel's first ball of the final over went through to the wicketkeeper. Taylor was run out from the second trying to steal a second run for a glance to long leg.

Next ball, Underwood played the ball into the covers and he, too, was run out. The batsmen had crossed and Lever took an offside single to the fourth ball before Willis fell to the fifth. It was a stirring finish.


Gooch : England top scorer on two successive days.

England made three changes overnight and Sri Lanka two and both sides in different ways were stronger than they had been on Saturday when England won a magnificent match by five runs. Sri Lanka looked all the better in the field for having a specialist wicketkeeper in Goonetillek and the inclusion of the 18-year-old left-hander Ranatanga also proved important to them. Both matches took place in broiling sunshine and amid much noisy enthusiasm with plenty of evidence that Sri Lankan firecrackers have a louder bang and emit more smoke than Indian ones.

It was hard work for the players in several ways but the greatest amount of energy expended was by a Sri Lankan supporter complete with flagpole bearing his national flag. He escorted every outgoing and incoming batsman; in between he raced round the boundary edge encouraging the cheers. Commercials over the Tannoy at wicket-falls and intervals and women groundstaff in colourful saris were other things that have not so far been tried at home.

Fletcher followed his rival's example on Saturday and put Sri Lanka in to bat when he won the toss and for a time there was the chance of a premature finish. Warnapura, who edged a drive, and Mendis, mishooking, fell in Botham's fourth over in the course of four balls and Sri Lanka were 43 for three after 17 overs when Dias was out in a rather unfortunate manner.

Dias had just started to show why he is regarded locally as such a fine stroke-maker. He had off-driven two successive fours against Lever when jerking his head away from a shorter ball, his helmet fell into his stumps. Dias kicked the helmet as it lay on the ground, something which most of us want to do to helmets for other reasons.

Ranatanga from the start batted with the same confidence and aggression he showed for the Presidents XI at Kandy last week. A stand of 87 in 16 overs followed with Wettimuny before Ranatanga was run out underestimating Tavaré's throwing arm at mid-wicket.

Ranasinghe, whose 51 in 40 balls took Sri Lanka so close to victory on Saturday, failed this time, pulling a catch to long leg. Wettimuny and his last three partners added a further 70 from the last 10 overs

Wettimuny carried his bat, facing 10 9balls and hitting eight fours. He had some quiet moments but at other times drove splendidly through the covers on the back foot. Botham's closing spell was expensive but Willis was economical and Underwood, too, did a good job.

Saturday

ENGLAND
G A Gooch, b G R A de Silva .. 64
G Cook, c G R A de Silva, b Kaluperuma .. 28
D I Gower, run out .. 15
I T Botham, b De Mel .. 60
K W R Fletcher, b D S de Silva .. 12
M W Gatting, c Mendis, b De Mel .. 3
C J Richards, b G R A de Silva .. 3
J E Emburey, l-b-w, b De Mel .. 0
P J W Allott, run out .. 0
D L Underwood, b De Mel .. 1
R G D Willis, not out .. 2
Extras (b 6, l-b 2, n-b 10, w 2) .. 20
Total (44.3 overs) .. 211
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—55, 2—88, 3—142, 4—191, 5—197, 6—202, 7—205, 8—206, 9—205.
BOWLING: De Mel, 8.4—1—34—4; Ranasinghe, 8—2—20—0; Kaluperuma, 7—0—35—1; D S de Silva, 9—0—31—1; G R A de Silva, 9—0—56—3; Wettimuny, 3—0—15—0.

SRI LANKA
S Wettimuny, not out .. [illegible]
S Wettimuny, C Richards, b Allott .. 46
R S A Jayasekera, c Gooch, b Willis .. 17
R Dias, hit wkt, b Lever .. 26
A Ranatunga, run out .. 12
M Goonetillake, G R A De Silva .. [illegible]
R S Madugalle, b Willis .. 22
A N Ranasinghe, c Cook, b Botham .. 51
D S de Silva, b Botham .. 3
L R D Mel, not out .. 17
L W Kaluperuma, not out .. 14
Extras (b 5, l-b 10, n-b 2, w 2) .. 19
Total (8 wkts, 45 overs) 206
G R A de Silva did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—34, 2—75, 3—84, 4—92, 5—92, 6—160, 7—175, 8—187.
BOWLING: Willis, 9—1—32—3; Botham, 9—0—45—2; Emburey, 5—0—18—0; Allott, 9—0—40—2; Gooch, 6—1—18—0; Underwood, 7—0—34—0.

Yesterday

SRI LANKA
B Warnapura, c Taylor, b Botham .. 4
S Wettimuny, not out .. 86
L R D Mendis, c and b Botham .. 0
R Dias, hit wkt, b Lever .. 26
A Ranatunga, run out .. 42
A N Ranasinghe, c Gooch, b Underwood .. 0
R S Madugalle, c Taylor, b Lever .. 12
A L F De Mel, run out .. 14
D S De Silva, not out .. 9
Extras (b 2, lb 18, nb 1, w 1) .. 22
Total (7 wkts, 45 overs) 215
M Gunatilleke, G R A De Silva did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—5, 2—5, 3—43, 4—130, 5—130, 6—158, 7—186.
BOWLING: Willis, 9—1—26—0; Botham, 9—1—29—2; Lever 9—0—51—2; Gooch, 9—0—50—0; Underwood, 9—0—37—1.

ENGLAND
G A Gooch, st Goonetillake, b G R A De Silva .. 74
G Cook, st Goonetillake, b G R A De Silva .. 32
D I Gower, l-b-w De Mel .. 6
I T Botham, c and b Warnapura .. 13
K W R Fletcher, run out .. 32
C J Tavaré, b D S De Silva .. 3
M W Gatting, run out .. 18
R W Taylor, run out .. 3
J K Lever, not out .. 2
D L Underwood, run out .. 0
R G D Willis, c Madugalle, b De Mel .. 0
Extras (lb 19, nb 1, w 1) 21
Total (44.5 overs) .. 212
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—109, 2—122, 3—122, 4—147, 5—170, 6—205, 7—206, 8—211, 9—211.
BOWLING: De Mel, 8.5—0—14—2; Ranasinghe 4—0—37—0; Warnapura, 9—0—42—1; D S De Silva, 9—0—54—1; G R A De Silva, 9—1—41—2.
Umpires: P W Vidanegama and K T Francis.

Australians miss chance

Hamilton, New Zealand, Feb 14.—The Australians continued an inauspicious start to their 11-match tour when they were beaten for the second consecutive day. The touring team, who lost by 46 runs to New Zealand in a one-day match in Auckland yesterday, suffered a more humiliating setback this time and went down by 24 runs to Northern Districts in another 50 overs game.

The Australian captain, Greg Chappell, put Northern Districts in to bat on a pitch which played easily throughout and the local side took advantage by making 260 all out in 46 overs. The touring team appeared well placed at 160 for two but the last eight wickets tumbled for 76 and they were all out for 236 in 47.2 overs.

New Zealand's skipper, Geoff Howarth, whose hard-hit 72 was top score, and his Test colleague John Wright, who made 38, provided the foundation of Northern Districts' total with a second wicket partnership of 85. Graeme Wood, the Australian opener, was run out cheaply for the second successive day but Bruce Laird, with 63, and John Dyson, who made 79, raised victory hopes by putting on 138 for the second wicket before the innings fell apart.

NORTHERN DISTRICTS
M J Wright, l-b-w, b Alderman .. 12
J G Wright, b Yardley .. 34
G P Howarth, c Marsh, b Yardley .. 72
B Cooper, b Bright .. 6
J M Parker, c sub, b Thomson .. 12
C Kuggeleijn, st Dyson, b Yardley .. 23
B L Cairns, b Alderman .. 33
C W Dickeson, c Border, b Yardley .. 3
S R Gillespie, b Yardley .. 10
M Carrington, not out .. 7
N Pollock, run out .. 1
Extras (b 16, l b 9, w 9, n-b 5) .. 39
Total (46 overs) .. 260
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—27, 2—112, 3—137, 4—137, 5—183, 6—237, 7—250, 8—250, 9—253.
BOWLING: Thomson, 8—2—16—1; Alderman, 10—0—45—2; Chappell, 6—0—56—0; Bright, 10—0—39—1; Yardley, 10—2—38—5; Border, 2—0—27—0.

AUSTRALIANS
B M Laird, b Dickeson .. 63
G M Wood, run out .. 2
J Dyson, c Pollock, b Dickeson .. 79
K J Hughes, c J Wright, b Carrington .. 20
R W Marsh, st M Wright, b Dickeson .. 2
A R Border, run out .. 34
B Yardley, run out .. 11
G S Chappell, b Gillespie .. 5
R J Bright, b Cairns .. 4
J R Thomson, not out .. 1
T M Alderman, b Cairns .. 0
Extras (b 5, l-b 5, w 2, n-b 5) .. 15
Total (47.2 overs) .. 236
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—5, 2—143, 3—160, 4—171, 5—178, 6—204, 7—217, 8—230, 9—235.
BOWLING: Carrington, 10—1—46—1; Pollock, 10—0—53—0; Gillespie, 4—0—17—1; Cairns, 8.2—1—32—2; Dickeson, 10—1—35—3.—Reuter.

SHEFIELD SHIELD: In Sydney: Western Australia 459 and 56 for 2. New South Wales 523 for 9 dec (R McCosker 130, T Chappell 89, Davis 72, T Hogan 4-154). Drawn. In Geelong: Queensland 282 and 98 for 1 (K Wessels 71 not). Victoria 356 (for 7 dec (J Weiner 165, G Yallop 111 no; G Brabon 4-106). In Launceston: Tasmania 298 and 166 for 6 (R Wooley 85; B Vincent 4-48). South Australia 462 (R Darling 88, J Crowe 79; F Stephenson 6-97).

New Zealand go ahead in series

Auckland, Feb 14.—Before a record crowd of 43,000, New Zealand scored 240 runs for six wickets in their 50 overs, in the first one-day international yesterday and dismissed Australia for 194. The Australian captain Greg Chappell was named man of the match for his innings of 108.

NEW ZEALAND
J Wright, run out .. 18
B Edgar, b Pascoe .. 79
J Reid, c Alderman, b Chappell .. 20
G Howarth, c Marsh, b Lillee .. [illegible]
J Coney, run out .. 48
R Hadlee, b Alderman .. 11
L Cairns, not out .. 18
Extras (lb 13, w 1, nb 1) .. 15
Total (6 wkts—50 overs) 240
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—28, 2—89, 3—148, 4—184, 5—210, 6—240.
Did not bat: M Crowe, M Snedden, G Troup, I Smith.
BOWLING: Thomson 10—2—36—0, Alderman 10—3—31—1, Pascoe 10—0—53—1, Chappell 10—0—57—1, Lillie 10—0—56—1.

AUSTRALIA
G Wood, run out .. 1
B Laird, c Crowe, b Cairns .. 11
J Dyson, c Crowe, b Troup .. 32
G Chappell, c Howarth, b Troup 108
K Hughes, c Crowe, b Coney .. 16
A Border, b Crowe .. 6
R Marsh, b Troup .. 1
J Thomson, c Snedden, b Troup 0
D Lillee, c Wright, b Crowe .. 1
L Pascoe, not out .. 2
T Alderman, b Snedden .. 1
Extras (b 4, lb 9, nb 2) .. 15
Total (all out—44.5 overs) 194
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—1, 2—21, 3—109, 4—143, 5—182, 6—187, 7—189, 8—190, 9—192.
BOWLING: Cairns 10—1—31—1, Hadlee 8—3—15—0, Snedden 7.5—1—35—1, Coney 7—0—43—1, Troup 10—1—44—4, Crowe 2—0—9—2.

Tennis

Mottram loses chance of final with McEnroe

Memphis, Tennessee, Feb 14.—Christopher Mottram's fine run in the US national indoor championships came to an end in the semi-final round here yesterday after he had been well placed to meet John McEnroe in the final. However, Johan Kriek, of South Africa, having dropped the first set against the Englishman fought back to win 2—6, 6—1, 6—4.

While McEnroe, the Wimbledon champion, defeated his American compatriot, Gene Mayer, 7—5, 6—3 in the other semi-final match, Mottram looked set for his third unexpected victory of the tournament having previously defeated Frenchman Yannick Noah, the sixth seed, and American Eliot Teltscher, seeded second.

Kriek made a series of unforced errors in the opening set and the unseeded Mottram dropped only two games. He played badly in the second set then missed an opportunity in the third to take charge as he led 3—1, 40—30.

McEnroe got his game on track in the fifth game of the match when he was down 3—1 and 40—15 on his serve. He pulled out that game with a backhand volley winner to stay in the match and then went on to win three consecutive games and take control.

"I certainly had my chances, and against someone who plays as well as John you can't let those chances pass by," said Mayer. "He takes you out of your rhythm. I didn't have the all-round feel for the ball that I usualy have.

Although McEnroe has not dropped a set in this tournament he has strugled early in almost every match. But he was not concerned. "I haven't been behind when I've been playing real well. It's been a case of once I get my game on track I've been all right."

Mottram described his performance against Teltscher as near perfect. Ranked 61st in the world, he said: "Everything has fallen together beautifuly this week." I couldn't hit the ball any better." Teltscher, ranked seventh in the world, became unsettled in the second set after disputes with the umpire, and on five occasions appeared to hit the ball at Mottram.

Cross country

Winners will be put in their place when stars return

The area cross-country championships used to be the form-finders for the National. They are now distinguished by the absence of England's top distance runners. Calendar congestion, rich pickings on the Continent, and reluctance to slog two nine-milers in three weeks are the principal reasons.

With respect to their considerable efforts in winning the Southern, Midlands and Northern titles on Saturday, Peter Standing, Tony Milovsorov, and John Woods will not be in contention for the English Cross-Country Union gold medal in Leeds on March 6. Teh absent Julian Goater, Mike McLeod and Dave Clarke among others, will see to that.

The Southern race at Parliament Hill produced a virtual carbon copy of last year's event. Nick Brawn, of Kent team; Invicta AC, did most of the forcing for the first two laps, only to be passed by Peter Standing, of Windsor at the same stage as last year. Brawn made more of a fight of it this year on the final lap, swapping the lead two or three times before Standing left him a mile-and-a-half from the finish.

The Cornishman, Jon Richards, won the junior title at Parliament Hill by over a minute. That is the sort of margin only Dave Bedford used to manage. Richards achieved that on only three months training after glandular fever. He pronounced himself "only 90 per cent fit", a claim that should strike considerable fear into his forthcoming adversaries, right up to the world championships in Rome on March 21.

MIDLANDS: 1, A Milovsorov (Tipton) 43.27; 2, R Smedley (Birchfield) 43.28; 3, Robert Westwood (Tipton) 43.29. Teams: 1, Tipton, 54 pts; 2, Sparkhill, 132; 3, Westbury, 165.
NORTHERN COUNTIES (at Birkenhead): 1, J Woods (Liverpool Harriers) 38 min 51 sec; 2, K Harrison (Stretford AC) 38 min 56 sec; 3, N Leeds (Derby AC) 39 min 2 sec. Team: 1, Bolton United Harriers 149 pts; 2, Sheffield AC 234 pts; 3, Airedale and Spen H 274 pts.
SCOTTISH WOMEN (at Falkirk): 1, C Price (Bolton United Harriers 20 min 48 sec; 2, L Lynch (Dundee Hawkhill Harriers) 21 min 8 sec; 3, J Lorden (Edinburgh University) 21 min 17 sec. Teams: 1, Edinburgh University 31 pts; 2, Glasgow AC 32 pts; 3, Shettleston 46 pts.
EASTERN COUNTIES (at Ampthill Park): 1, T Simmons (Luton) 48 min 15 sec; 2, J Clark (Grimsby) 49.41; 3, N Allison (Ipswich) 50.13. Team: 1, Grimsby Harriers 116 pts; 2, Ipswich Harriers 153 pts; 3, Holbeach 167 pts.

Rackets

Early support for rule experiment

By Roy McKelvie

The one-service rule is being tried out in the Noel Bruce Cup for rackets which began at Queen's Club over the weekend. That it can make for a more enjoyable game was clearly seen when the Tonbridge pair, Miles Connell and Charles Wilmot, beat the Wellington team of Jonathan Edwardes and William Maltby 17—16, 15—12, 15—3, 15—1.

The reactions of all four players to this rule, which obtains in the United States, was favourable. Wilmot said he likes it because it gives him a chance against strong servers. Connell thinks it neutralizes the dominant server, Edwardes said it made for more rallies but does not prevent a really good server from gaining his reward, and Maltby thinks it keeps the game flowing. It certainly did that in this match.

In the four games played, three of them close, there were fewer than a score of winning serves and about the same number of faults. That meant there were few service runs of any consequence and far more rallies than there might have been.

Connell was the best server in court and with two services might have dominated. As it was, he finished off all four games, the second with a run of five containing only one service winner. His longest run was seven with no winners at the start of the fourth fame, by which time Wellington's resistance had been broken, not in the least wy the consistent play of Wilmot.

FIRST ROUND: Eton II (C T M Pugh and D Norman) beat Harrow III (J Q Greenstock and C M Ohlson), 15—0, 15—7, 15—9, 15—6; Marlborough I (D K Watson and C F Worlidge) beat Charterhouse II (W A Ponger and J Howard), 15—3, 15—10, 15—4, 15—11; Winchester I (R H Sutton and P G Seabrook), beat Clifton I (N S N Burnell and J Bretton), 15—5, 15—0, 15—5, 15—5.

Hazell's Cup

Shannon Hazell, the Wellington professional and number 3 seed, won the British professional rackets championship, sponsored by Celestion Loudspeakers at Manchester yesterday. Hazell, aged 20, beat the holder and no. 1 seed, Norwood Cripps, 15—7, 17—16, 8—15, 15—11 after two hours and a half of high quality play to win his first important title—the Scott-Chad Cup.

MANCHESTER: British professional championships, semi-finals: N Cripps (Eton) beat D Makey (Tonbridge) 15—1, 15—1, 15—8. S Hazell (Wellington) beat R Wakeley (Marlborough) 16—11, 13—16, 15—7, 15—4. S Hazel beat Cripps 15—7, 17—16, 8—15, 15—11.

Gymnastics

Standards and entries both increasing

By Peter Aykroyd

If the record entries for the London open championships caused some overcrowding at St Mary's College, Twickenham, on Saturday, the rising standard of performance throughout the three levels of competition more than made up for the administrative strain.

The 122 gymnasts from all over the country—50 per cent more than last year—reflected not only the current popularity of men's gymnastics, but also demonstrated how more and more young Britons are tackling moves which, until recently, were the domain of eastern bloc gymnasts.

Paul Williams, deputy president of the British Amateur Gymnastics Association, was delighted when he said: "The standard at senior and junior levels is rocketing, and the top six in both these competitions are the best that we have ever had".

The advance in the boys' competition was also startling, with 12-year-olds tackling the pommelled horse with aplomb. In some cases this apparatus was the same height as the competitor, sevearal of whom performed the difficult "flairs" move in #their floor exercises, when the legs are scythed in circles while the body is supported by the arms.

The junior men's competition was a triumph for the Harlow club whose gymnasts took the first four places. They were led by uc Terlings who scored 50.90. The senior men's contest was close, with only one mark separating the first four places.

It was successfully defended by Edward van Hoof of Hendon, the 1981 winner.

BOYS: 1, N Thomas (Stoke) 50.10; 2, J May (Seaton, Devon), 47.70; 3, G Hart (Harlow) 47.10.
JUNIORS: 1, L Terlings (Harlow) 50.90; 3, D Pumfrett (Harlow) 49.90; 3, I Dobson (Harlow) 49.75.
SENIORS: 1, E van Hoof (Hendon) 55.05; 2, A Morris (Swansea) 54.90, 3, B Winch (Harlow) 54.15.

Jahangir's hard task

Jahangir Khan, of Pakistan, the world squash champion, heads an impressive entry, which includes 37 of the world's top 50 players, for the 1982 McEwan's lager open championship to be held at Stockton YMCA from March 10-15.

Skiing

JASPER, CANADA: Women's Alpine Slalom Championship: 1, L Lacasse, 1 min 37.72 secs; 2, L Knight, 1:40.02; 3, P Lumby, 1:41.36.

For the record

Badminton

NIEUWEGEIN: Dutch Open: men's singles: first round: Prakash Padukone (India) beat D Travers (Scotland), 15—8, 15—5; N Yates (England) beat G Simon (England), 15—3, 15—5; M Svarrer (Denmark) beat D Burden (England), 15—7, 15—0; K Jolly (England) beat N Tier [illegible]

Basketball

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Kingston Cantabrica 86, Lada Birchwood 85; Fiat Birmingham 84, Sunderland 85; Talbot Guildford 77, Whitbread Manchester 95; Ovaltine Hemel Hempstead 104, Solent 105; TCB Brighton 100, Whitbread Manchester 99; John Carr Doncaster 106, [illegible]

Table tennis

EUROPEAN LEAGUE: Second division: Scotland 4, Spain 3. (Scottish names first): K Rodger lost to R Casaveres, 17—21, 14—21; D Hannah lost to J Pales, 17—21, 22—20, 19—21; Miss C Dalrymple beat Miss P Lupon, 21—9, 21—17; Roger and Hannah lost to Pales and [illegible]

Tennis

[illegible]

Hockey

[illegible]

Rifle shooting

[illegible]

Lacrosse

[illegible]

Rowing

[illegible]

Cycling

[illegible]

Swimming

MOSCOW: Soviet winter championships: Men: 1,500 metres: 1, V Salnikov (USSR), 7 min 52 secs (world record). 100 metres backstroke: 1, V Kuznetsov (USSR), 57.02. 200 metres individual medley: 1, A Sidorenko (USSR), 2 02.85 (European record). Women: 100 metres backstroke: 1, L Gorchakova (USSR), 1:03.54. 200 metres individual medley: 1, K Norde (EG), 2:18.25.

Luge

WINTERBERG (West Germany): European Championship: Men's (three runs): 1, U Handrich (EG), 2 min 55.9 sec. Women: 1, Schmidt (EG), 2.00.15.

Volleyball

ROYAL BANK NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: first division: Whitburn 0, Coatbridge YMCA 3; Dundee Kirkton 3, Paisley 1, Bellshill Cardinals 1, Kilmarnock 3; MIM 3, Tass 0; Falkirk 2, DV '81 3. Women: first division: Cumnock 0, Dunfermline CPE 3; Larbert 0, Dodds Troon 3; Bellshill Cardinals 0, Jets 3; Telford 3, Inverclyde 0; Whitburn Academy FP 0, Whitburn 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Women: First division: Speedwell Rucanor (Bristol) 3, Trident Estonians (Essex) 0; Colchester 3, Birmingham Athletic Institute 2; Hillingdon 3, Hemel Hempstead 0; Spark (London) 3, Ashcombe 1.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	150	260	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	0
Slush on south slopes							
Courmayeur	125	245	Good	Fair	Fair	Snow	5
Good skiing on upper slopes							
Grindelwald	15	105	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	1
New snowfall expected							
Isola 2000	105	150	Good	Fair	Good	Snow	-1
Improving skiing conditions							
Klosters	150	230	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	-1
Excellent skiing on pistes							
La Plagne	165	310	Good	Varied	Good	Snow	—
New snow on firm base							
Mürren	60	150	Fair	Varied	Good	Snow	0
More snow needed							
St Anton	120	460	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	3
Spring snow on south slopes							
Tignes	220	290	Fair	Varied	Fair	Snow	0
New snow falling							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes.

[redacted]

هكذا من الأصل

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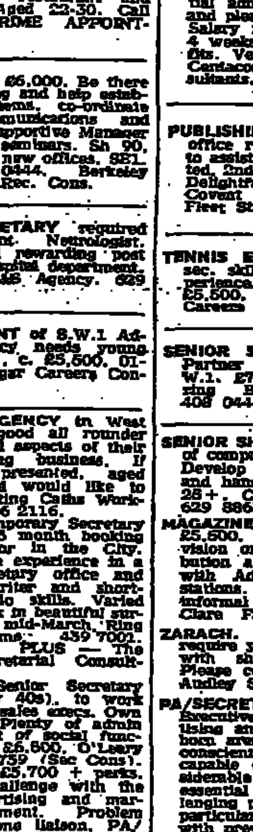
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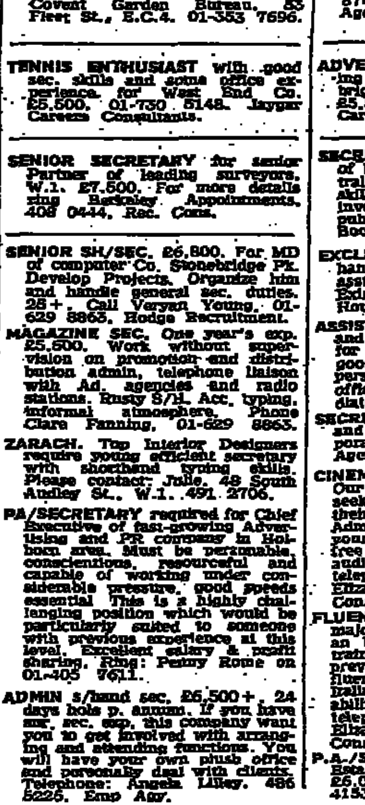
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continued on page 22

Commercial Property by Gareth David

Work place will move to an office park

Major changes in the working environment both for the manufacturer and the office worker are on the way, backed by usually cautious institutional finance.

Demand from companies in the micro-electronics field for industrial units to high specifications and with laboratory and office content is but a half way house to large out-of-town office parks, which have proved so successful in North America.

Already the electricity supply industry pension fund has committed £150m to the first such scheme near Bristol, while the Universities Staff Superannuation Scheme has earmarked some £50m for another massive development within a mile of Heathrow Airport planned by the property group Trust Securities.

The Aztec West development near the junction of the M4 and M5 motorways north of Bristol will be the first true greenfields development including both office and industrial space on the American model in this country, and will be followed by further residential development in the area.

It will eventually comprise about 2 million sq ft of warehouse office and industrial space on a landscaped site of 170 acres, arranged in a campus style development and incorporating shops, banks and leisure facilities. The aim is to create a village centre atmosphere for the skilled staff who will work there.

Investment by pension funds on the scale of ESN at Aztec West or the Trust Securities development represents a major change from the relatively small warehouse estates which have in the past been the limit of most funds' speculative involvement in the industrial property market.

But the question for the fund manager is, will the rents obtainable be sufficient to offset the added risks of such a major and untried venture in this country?

What has been notable in the early days of the Aztec West project, in which a number of other funds also have an interest, is that whereas there is no premium on industrial space over other developments in the area, office rents of £6.50 per sq ft are being achieved, which are comparable with those being achieved in Bristol city centre.

So the stage is set for further out-of-town office parks on this American pattern of low density development, good car parking, and outstanding environmental features such as landscaping and tree planting.

There are numerous advantages to such a development according to Mr. James Donald of estate agents Savills. Foremost of these are the lower operating costs of the business in terms of rent and rates.

As standards of living rise there is an increasing reluctance to go through the daily inconvenience and cost of commuting and most people would welcome a shortened and easier journey to an out of town location. Naturally too, the more attractive the location the better the calibre of staff who would find the move attractive.

The emphasis on landscaping such schemes means that development on a green field site is almost essential, with natural landscaping an added advantage. But here the great unknown arises — namely will planning authorities be prepared to consider the development of farmland for such schemes?

On the assumption that attitudes will change in due course to accept this kind of scheme, where are they most likely to spring up in the future?

In the latest issue of Savills' property trends bulletin Mr Donald cites the example of Basingstoke as a place where a purpose built office/business estate was developed from green fields outside the town itself. It is not park-like enough in layout and environment, he notes, but does prove that numerous companies will move to a non town-centre site if the location is right.

Basingstoke fits the bill as far as communications are concerned, with good rail and road links and easy access to Heathrow Airport, coupled with delightful countryside on its doorstep.

If the office park concept is to take off in this country these will be the essential requirements, so it is likely to be in the Thames Valley or roughly along the routes of the M3 and M4 motorways as far south as Southampton and as far west as Bristol, that most attention will be focused.

Briefly . . .

☐ More shopping centres opened in 1981 than at any time since 1976 but the average size of schemes continues to fall steadily, according to estate agents Hillier Parker.

Last year 33 new shopping centres opened, containing a total of 4.5m sq ft gross of floorspace, representing a considerable recovery from the 2.9m sq ft opened in 1980.

The view that shopping centre development would fall away because nearly all the major centres already had substantial schemes is not born out by the story of retail development in 1981.

Only eleven of the 33 schemes were in the top 180 town centres in Britain, with the remainder in suburbs, small towns and new towns.

Among the top ten developers in the years 1979-81, Town & City remains top although Heron and French Kier have been particularly active. Two retail groups — Asda and Tesco — appear in the top ten, and one institution — Prudential.

☐ Hongkong offices are the most expensive in the world at £30.25 per sq ft, ahead of New York at £29.25 per sq ft. London, until two years ago the most expensive market in the world, has fallen into third place with rents of £27.00 per sq ft, according to estate agents Richard Ellis.

In a survey of 23 leading centres throughout the world the agents show that the cheapest offices are in Brussels where rents currently are just £4.50 per sq ft, and Glasgow, where the figure is £6.00 per sq ft.

The factors affecting the Hongkong market — high demand and a shortage of central area developments — are also present in London, according to Mr John Orton, the Ellis research partner, who repeated his prediction that prime City of London rents would reach £40-£45 per sq ft by 1985.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

NOTICE — UK BUILDING CONTRACTORS

The Overseas Development Administration of the British Government and the Ministry of Health of the United Republic of Tanzania intend to upgrade and redevelop the existing Government Hospital in Mbeya into a consultant and referral hospital for the south-west region of Tanzania.

This Project is being financed by the British Government with funds available in the United Kingdom to cover procurement of materials, UK Costs, overheads and profits and British Contractors will be required to register in the United Republic of Tanzania.

UK Contractors who wish to submit tenders should in the first instance collect prequalification questionnaires to be completed and returned by 12th March 1982 to:

Norman & Dawbarn
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Woodbridge Road
Guildford GU1 4RT
Surrey, England
Telephone
Guildford 33551
Telex 859265

... Unit at Park Hospital, Moorside Road, Davyhulme, Manchester, will be invited in March, 1982, the approximate order of cost being £3,100,000 and the contract period 24 months.

Applications for consideration to be included in the list of tenderers for this work should be submitted to the Regional Administrator, North Western Regional Health Authority, Gateway House, Piccadilly South, Manchester, M60 7LP, no later than 2nd March, 1982, quoting reference DH/W91/1/26.

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of GERALD HENRY & COMPANY Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 5th day of April, 1982, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Philip Monjack, FCA, of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 8th day of February, 1982.

P. MONJACK, Liquidator.

In the Matter of BEAUMONT TIMBER Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 23rd day of March, 1982 to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims ...

P MONJACK
Liquidator

In the matter of TENCO BROOKE BOND, Limited. By order of the High Court of Justice dated the 30th day of November 1981, BARRY JOHN WARD of 1, 2 & 3 College Yard, Worcester WR1 2LB has been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company without a Committee of Inspection.
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GERALD HENRY & COMPANY Limited. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA, on Thursday, the 25th day of February, 1982, at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
Dated the 8th day of February, 1982

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Notice is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at 13.30 hours on 2nd March, 1982, at 10 Lefebvre Street, Guernsey, Channel Islands, for the purpose of approving a Special Resolution to increase the Authorised Capital of the Company.

Notice is also hereby given that if the aforesaid Special Resolution is approved and passed a further Extraordinary General Meeting will be held at the same hour and place on 18th March, 1982, to confirm the Resolution as a Special Resolution.

By Order of the Board

C S MOLLETT
Secretary

Registered Office:
10 Lefebvre Street,
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15th February, 1982

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BIRTHS

CARDIGAN.—On February 11th at Princess Margaret hospital, Swindon, to the Earl & Countess of Cardigan—a son (Thomas James).
DAVIES.—On February 11th, at Sharoe Green Hospital, Preston, to Kristina (nee Whistler) and Peter—a son (Christopher James Parnell).
GATES.—On 10th February to Doreen and John—a daughter (Vanessa).
GEE.—On February 8th to Elizabeth (Copeland) and Nicholas at the North Staffs Maternity Hospital—a daughter (Francesca Annabelle).
HOLDER.—On 11th February, to Jean (née Womersley) and Clive—a son (Adam James), at Queen Elizabeth's, King's Lynn.

DEATHS

BUCKROYD.—On February 12th, 1982, Elsie (née Clarkson), aged 86, widow of Burton Buckroyd, and dearly beloved mother of Peter and Brian. Service at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth, tomorrow, Tuesday, at 12.45 p.m. Flowers to F. Binkhurst & Son, East Grinstead 23092.
HUTCHINSON.—On 10th February, peacefully after a long illness, Beatrice Maud (Bee), (née Hammond), widow of Canon Deryck Hutchinson, dearly loved sister ...

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SECRETARIAL

continued from page 21

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The Registrar,
The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Rome Under Augustus. 7.05 Maths Methods: Direction Fields. 7.30 Closedown. 9.08 For Schools, Colleges: Jobs in Horticulture. 9.33 Taking Responsibility. 10.00 You and Me. For the very young (not Schools). 10.15 Music Time. 10.38 Modern History: Pearl Harbour to Hiroshima. 11.00 Topical interests. 11.23 Talkabout. 11.42 The effects of drinking alcohol. 12.07 Closedown. 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial Report and news headlines with subtitles). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Jon Pertwee and a holiday in Thailand. 1.45 Camberwick Green. A See-Saw programme for the very young (r). 2.01 For Schools, Colleges: Words and Pictures. 2.18 People on the Move. 2.40 Exploring Science. 3.00 Delia Smith's Cookery Course. Lesson seven: Poultry. 3.25 See Hear! A magazine programme for the hearing impaired (r). 3.53 Regional news (not London).

3.55 Play School. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2).
4:20 Cartoon: Winsome Witch in Good Little Scout (r).
4.25 Jackanory. Prunella Scales reads part one of Bogwoppit (r).
4.40 Cartoon: Scooby and Scrappy Doo.
5.00 John Craven's Newsround.
5.05 Blue Peter. Britain's top dogs demonstrate their skills and Peter Duncan temporarily joins the Fire Brigade.
5.35 Ivor the Engine (r).
5.40 News with Richard Baker. 6.00 South East at Six. 6.25 Nationwide.
6.55 Doctor Who. Peter Davison in part one of The Visitation.
7.20 Bret Maverick. The first in a new series starring James Garner as the card-sharp cowboy.
8.10 Panorama. The Life and Soul of the Party. Panorama has compiled its own account of the recent developments in the Labour Party and in particular the growing impact of one far-left group — Militant in the central Liverpool area. Labour traditionalists are concerned with the success this wing is having in securing a majority of the city's parliamentary seats and Robert Kee in an important interview with Michael Foot asks him his views on the current state of the Party.

9.00 News with John Humphrys.
9.25 Last of the Summer Wine. In this final programme of the series Compo buys Sid's second hand frogman's outfit in order to explore the wonders of the deep. When this diversion loses its appeal it is suggested that Compo should try water ski-ing.
9.55 Police. A knife-point hold-up of a petrol station in Reading.
10.35 Film 82. Guest presenter Tina Brown reviews James Cagney's latest, Ragtime and Death Wish II starring Charles Bronson. In addition, David Thomas talks to Blake Thomas about his plans for another Pink Panther film.
11.05 Phil Silvers* as Sergeant Bilko, the US Army's most resilient NCO.
11.33 News headlines.
11.35 Speak for Yourself. Asking for time off work.
12.00 Weather.

BBC 2

7.05 Open University: Facts are not Enough. 7.30 Database: Information systems. 7.55 Closedown. 10.35 Speak for Yourself. Advice on asking for time off work. 11.00 Play School. For the under fives presented by Elizabeth Millbank and Dev Sagoo. The story this morning is Michael Wyatt's Mrs Bramble's Hat. 11.25 Play it Safe! Jimmy Savile with safety hints for youngsters. 11.35 Write Away. Practical advice for everyday writing introduced by Barry Took (r). 11.50 Closedown. 2.00 Long, Short and Tall Stories. An adults' guide to children's books (r). 2.25 Maths Help. To 'O' level standard. 2.40 Other People's Lives. Religious customs of Bali. 3.05 The Computer Programme. Part six: Moving Pictures. 3.30 Business Club. Advice for owners of small businesses.

3.55 Film: You Never Can Tell* (1951) starring Dick Powell and Peggy Dow. Mr Powell plays Rex Shepherd in this comedy about a dog left six million dollars by his eccentric owner. In the event of the dog's demise the money will go to the deceased millionaire's secretary.
5.10 Priory School—Management in Action. A day in the life of the staff of this Avon school (r).
5.40 Laurel and Hardy in Any Old Port* (1932).
6.00 Maggie. The story of a Glaswegian girl (r).
6.25 Mr Smith's Favourite Garden. The Greenhouse.
6.50 News with subtitles.
6.55 Riverside. Among the guests is Lynn Seymour who talks about her new role of dance teacher.
7.25 The Genuine Article. Spotting fake furniture.
7.50 Crufts. Highlights from the World's greatest dog show.
8.25 Grace Kennedy. For this final show of the series the singer's guests are Lulu and Al Jarreau.

9.00 Not the Nine O'Clock News. The three men and a girl return to bring an indelicate comic analysis of topics of the moment.
9.25 Horizon: The Cline Affair. An investigation into the genetic engineering experiments of Los Angeles doctor, Martin Cline.
10.15 West Country Tales: The White Bird of Laughter. A mystery story about a bird that is destined to fly forever. The story has been dramatized by Bob Deere from an original sent in by a viewer (r).
10.45 Newsnight.
11.30 Tele-Montage. Marianne Lawrence introduces a French speaking television network's look at the French in love. Ends at 12.00.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Mime with Marcel Marceau. 9.47 Skins of various creatures. 10.04 How clay becomes crockery. 10.21 Final episode of Macbeth. 10.48 Magic for the hearing impaired. 11.05 Communication and control. 11.22 Steel manufacture in Sheffield. 11.39 The early years of marriage. 12.00 Cockleshell Bay. The Cockle twins for the very young (r). 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets. 12.30 That's the Way. Understanding local government. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 About Britain. With Jack Charlton at the Durham miners' gala. 2.00 Money-go-Round. What happens to your pension when you change jobs. 2.30 Film: The Million Pound Note (1953) starring Gregory Peck. Based on the Mark Twain story of a penniless sailor who becomes the guinea pig in a bet to see if a man could live like a lord without spending any money as long as he had in his possession the high denomination note.

4.15 Cartoon: Dr Snuggles. With the voice of Peter Ustinov.
4.20 Grahams Ark. Looking after long-haired cats.
4.45 The Book Tower presented by Stephen Moore.
5.15 Mr and Mrs. A personal quiz between three married couples.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news.
6.25 Help! Viv Taylor Gee with news of Hammersmith's Keep Warm Project whereby old, poor or disabled people have their homes insulated and draught-proofed for very little cost.
6.35 Crossroads. Jill Harvey receives some advice from Barbara Hunter.
7.00 Wish You Were Here . . .? Ed Stewart visits Disney World in Florida; Judith Chalmers takes a hang gliding course; and Chris Kelly travels to the Tunisian resort of El Kantaoui.
7.30 Coronation Street. Hilda Ogden receives a Valentine's Card.
8.00 Dead Ernest. A new comedy series starring Andrew Sachs as a pools winner arriving in heaven.
8.30 World in Action. A Bankrupt Case. An investigation into the parlous financial state of the majority of our Football League clubs.

9.00 Hill Street Blues. Drama series based in an American police station. This week Police chief Furillo (Daniel J. Travanti) has to deal with his colleagues' unrest when negotiations break down between the police union and the city governors.
10.00 News.
10.30 Film: Life at the Top* (1965) starring Laurence Harvey and Jean Simmons. The follow-up film to Room at the Top. It is now ten years on and Joe Lampton's ruthless rise to the top of the ladder begins to falter. His marriage is a bore and his job he finds humdrum. He can only find happiness with Norah Hauxley (Honor Blackman).
12.40 Close with Elisabeth Lutyens reading an extract from one of her favourite authors.

James Garner as Bret Maverick (BBC 1 7.20 pm)

CHOICE

● World in Action's A BANKRUPT GAME (ITV 8.30 pm) reveals that of the 92 clubs in the four divisions of the Football League 80 are in the red and struggling. The cameras went behind the scenes at Third Division Bristol City and filmed the emotional negotiations that led to eight senior players reluctantly agreeing to redundancy in order to keep the club in existence. These players were being paid wages that were agreed when the club was in the First Division but now the club could not afford them. How many more clubs will be forced to do the same? Interviews with those closely connected with the game tend to favour a maximum transfer fee and a maximum wage, but others, notably Jimmy Hill, believe that the players themselves would reject the idea. But would they, if it meant the decimation of the Football League?

● Eighteen months ago the first genetic engineering experiment was performed on a human being. Horizon's THE CLINE AFFAIR (BBC2 9.25 pm) investigates the intrigue and the unease felt about the operation and the person who performed it, Dr Martin Cline. He arrived in Jerusalem from Los Angeles carrying with him human genes that he had grown in bacteria. These it was hoped would save the life of a twentyone year old Israeli girl. If successful, Cline would be hailed as a pioneer, if not the future of gene therapy applied to humans would be brought into question. What happened at the operation nobody knows and the fate of the patient is shrouded in secrecy. Why was he allowed to operate in Israel after unsuccessfully trying in the United States for over a year? Horizon tries to find the answer to this and other unanswered questions.

● WHERE WERE YOU THE NIGHT THEY SHOT THE PRESIDENT? (Radio 4 8.00 pm) is the over-long and contentious title of a play by Martyn Read about a young man's transition to adulthood. Dominic Guard plays Richard, an intelligent teenager destined for University. To this end he is backed to the hilt by his teacher, Major Breeze (Peter Jeffrey) but Judith (Annette Crosbie) believes that his further education should be in a different direction. Poor Richard's future becomes a battle between two implacable protagonists.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.30 Today.
8.35 This Week on 4.
8.45 Glyn Worsnip in the BBC Sound Archives.
9.00 News.
9.05 Start the Week.
10.00 News.
10.02 Money Box.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "The Voice of the Turtle" by Somerset Maugham.
11.00 News.
11.05 Down Your Way visits Swindon.
11.50 Poetry Please!
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Legal, Decent, Honest and Truthful. Comedy series.†
12.55 Weather and Programme News.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: "The Centenier" by Alan Downer.
4.35 Back in Ten Minutes. A walk through Lyme Regis.
4.45 Story Time: "An Old Captivity" by Neville Shute (6).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Just a Minute. A panel game.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Start the week.
8.00 The Monday Play: "Where Were You the Night they Shot the President? by Martyn Read.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Science Now.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Charmed Lives" by Michael Korda (6).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News and Weather.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Wagner, Haydn, Debussy, Tchaikovsky; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning concert (continued) Mendelssohn, Schubert, Beethoven; records.†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's composer: Antonin Dvorak; records.†
10.00 Music for Organ Recital: Bach.
10.25 Lucia Popp Song Recital: Mahler, Brahms.†
10.55 Music for Guitar Recital: Purcell arr. Bonell, Bernard Stevens, Michael Blake Watkins.†

Annette Crosbie: (Radio 4 8.00 pm)

11.25 BBC Symphony Orchestra Concert: Svendsen, Szymanowski, Sibelius.†
1.00 News.
1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert Piano Trio Recital, direct from St. John's, Smith Square, London: Haydn, Mendelssohn.†
2.05 Matinee Musicale Concert: Rossini, Faure, Johann Strauss, Gordon Langford, Rimsky-Korsakov.†
3.05 The Songs of Mussorgsky Recital.†
3.55 New Records Wolf, John Foulds: Tchaikovsky.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Aspects of the Blues by Francis Smith (7) "People".
7.30 Sibelius on record.†
8.00 East West Report. A look at a recent conference in Vienna for journalists and broadcasters from the Communist block and the West.
8.45 College Concert Part 1: Boulez, York Holler.†
9.25 On Tour. Short story by Knut Hamsun.
9.50 College Concert Part 2: Johannes Kalitzke, Gyorgy Ligeti.†
10.30 Jazz in Britain featuring the Tony Oxley Percussion Ensemble.†
11.00 News.
11.05 Moscheles on record.†

VHF ONLY—5.55am Open University.

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore. † 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young. † 12.00 Gloria Hunniford. † 2.00 Ed Stewart. † 4.00 David Hamilton. † 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 John Dunn. † 8.00 Folk on 2. † 9.00 Humphrey Lyttleton †. 10.00 Monday Movie Quiz. 10.30 Star Sound. 11.00 Brian Matthew from midnight. † 2.00-5.00 You And the Night and the Music. †

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 Stayin' Alive. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel. 12.00 Midnight. Close.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648 kHz (463m) at the following times GMT:— 6.00am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Country Style. 7.45 Short Story. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The London Bach. 8.30 Baker's Half-Dozen. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 Notes from An Observer. 9.20 Good Books. 9.35 Interlude. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 A Word in Edgeways. 10.15 The Instrument Makers. 10.30 Snatch of the Day: The Navy Lark. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 Backtracking. 11.30 The Reith Lecturer. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 Country Style. 1.45 The Revenue Men. 2.15 The End of the Affair. 2.30 Rock Salad. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 The Red and the Black. 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News. 5.09 Europa. 5.25 New Ideas. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 Europa. 9.30 Rock Salad. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Classical Record Review. 11.30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 12.00 World News. 12.09am News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Radio Theatre. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Europa. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Sports International. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 John Peel. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1

CYMRU/WALES 12.57 pm-1.00 News of Wales. 1.45-2.01 Pili Pala. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 6.55-7.20 Heddiw. 7.20-7.45 Campus Gampau. 7.45-8.10 Dr Who. 12.00-12.02 am Weatherman. 12.02-12.23 Working for Safety (1) Noise. 12.23 News and weather. SCOTLAND 11.00 am-11.23 For Schools: Let's See — Growing (1). 12.55 pm-1.00 Scottish News. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 11.05-11.35 Cearcall. 11.35 News and weather. NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57 pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 12.00 News and weather. ENGLAND 6.00 pm 6.25 Regional news magazine. 12.05 am Close.

BORDER

As Thames except: 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Rhodes of Africa (Walter Huston). Cecil Rhodes casts his eye over the fertile plains of Africa. 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Bygones. 6.00 Look Around. 6.15 Sound of . . . Sandy and Derrick. 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 10.30 Film: Eyes Have It. Students at a blind school discover three sighted and dangerous strangers in their midst. 11.40 News. 11.43 Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Last Day of the War (George Maharis). American GIs taste the fruits of victory. 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.40-7.00 Crime Desk. 10.30 Late Call. 10.35 Golfing Greats: Peter Thompson. 11.05 Film: If It's a Man, Hang Up (Carol Lynley) Suspense as fashion model is bothered by anonymous telephone calls. 12.20am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO ★ BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

HTV

As Thames except starts: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Double Bunk* (Ian Carmichael, Janette Scott). Newlyweds set up home in an old houseboat. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.28 News. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 Parents and Teenagers. 11.30 Living Legends of Jazz and Blues: Koko Taylor. 12.00 Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 12.00pm-12.10 Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.20 Mr Magoo. 4.45-5.15 Sêr. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.30-7.00 Report Wales. 8.30-9.00 Yr Wythnos. 11.00 World in Action. 11.30-12.00 Parents and Teenagers.

CENTRAL

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Horse's Mouth (Alec Guinness, Kay Walsh). Mad adventures of an eccentric artist and his companions. 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.30 Parents and Teenagers. 11.00 News. 11.05 Left, Right and Centre: Presented by Jon Lander. 11.45 Paris by Night: Montparnasse. 12.15am Something Different. 12.30 Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: Geordie (Alastair Sim, Bill Travers). Weedy youngster takes a body-building course and becomes a champion hammer thrower. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 10.30 Anglia Reports: Sea defences. 11.00 Palace Presents: Henry Mancini and singer Leslie Uggams. 12.00 Superstar profile: Sally Field. 12.30am Reflection.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except starts: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: Mr Perrin and Mr Traill* (Marius Goring). Middle-aged teacher becomes embittered when a younger master begins to undermine his authority. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 It's a Vet's Life. 9.00-10.00 Quincy. 10.30 There's Life North of Watford. 11.00 Lou Grant. 12.00 Closedown.

TVS

As Thames except starts: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: President's Mistress (Beau Bridges, Larry Hagman). Political thriller set around the CIA. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Stiff Little Fingers. 10.30 Full Life: Lord George Brown. 11.00 Film: Death in Small Doses: Butler sets out to poison his employer in order to extort her fortune. 12.25am Company followed by Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except starts: 9.25am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: "Sands of the Desert" (Charlie Drake). Comedy about meek travel agent who day-dreams. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30-7.00 Country Focus. 10.30 Film: Blind Terror (Mia Farrow). Blind girl is stalked byu a mainiacal killer. 12.10am News. 12.15 Closedown.

TSW

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: Search for the Gods (Stephen McHattie, Kurt Russell) Pursuit of a mysterious broken medallion. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 Two of us. 10.32 News. 10.35 Ladies' Man. 11.05 Golfing Greats: Severiano Ballesteros. 11.30 Barney Miller. 11.55 Postscript. 12.0 am Closedown.

ULSTER

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.30-4.15 Film: Coney Island (Betty Grable, George Montgomery) Turbulent and tuneful story set in New York's seashore playground. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 9.00-10.00 Quincy. 10.30 Welcome Back Kotter. 11.00 Face Your Future. 11.25 Bedtime, Closedown.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: Search for the Gods (Stephen McHattie) Pursuit of a mysterious medallion. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30-7.00 Two of us. 10.28 News. 10.35 Ladies' Man. 11.05 Golfing Greats: Severiano Ballasteros. 11.30 Barney Miller. 11.55 Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts 9.20am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 2.30-4.15 Film: Sapphire (Nigel Patrick, Yvonne Mitchell). Body of an attractive girl is found on London's Hampstead Heath. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 News. 6.02 Mr and Mrs. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Briefing: Computers. 11.15 Lou Grant. 12.10am Look at Bell Ringing. 12.15 Closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.30-4.15 Film: Last Day of the War (George Maharis). American GIs taste the fruits of victory. 5.15-5.45 Dick Turpin. 6.00 Mr Merlin. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 9.00-10.00 Quincy. 10.30 Danger UXB. 11.30 City of Angels. 12.30 am Closedown.

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS

CC Most credit cards accepted for telephone bookings or at the box office.
When telephoning use prefix 01 only when outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258.
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight, Thurs, Sat 7.00 THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO. Tomor, Fri 7.00: THE FLYING DUTCHMAN. 04 balcony seats avail from 10 am on day.

COVENT GARDEN 240 1066 'S' (Gardencharge cc 836 6903) 65 amphiseats avail for all perfs from 10am on the day of perf.
THE ROYAL OPERA
Tomor at 7.00. La Boheme. (Marilyn Schau sings Musetta. TV recording).
THE ROYAL BALLET
Wed at 7.30. Manon. Thurs at 7.30 & Sat at 2.00 & 7.30. Swan Lake. Theatre closed today & Fri Feb 19.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1 837 1672/1673/3856 Credit Cards 10am to 6pm 278 0871/837 7505 Grp Bookings 379 6061. 24 hr instantly confirmed res 200 0200. NEW OPERA COMPANY British Premiere of Edward Cowie's COMMEDIA. Wed, Fri & Sat 7.30 pm Tkts £2.0 to £8.0. Sadler's Well's Royal Ballet 23 February to 6 March AMPLE FREE PARKING aft 6.30 pm.

THEATRES

ADELPHI S CC 01-836 7611
D'OYLY CARTE
with 7 operas by GILBERT and SULLIVAN
Season must end 27 Feb
Feb 13, 15, 16, 17 THE MIKADO. Evgs 7.30. Mats. Wed, Sat 2.30. Credit card Hotline 01-930 0731.

ALBERY. OMEGA SHOW GUIDE. ALL MY SONS, CAN'T PAY? WON'T PAY! CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOD, EDUCATING RITA. Credit Card Sales 379 6565 from 9 am. All major cards. No Bkg fees. Grp bkgs 836 3962. Student Standby.

ALBERY. S 836 3878. cc 379 6565/930 0731. Grp Bkgs 839 3092/836 3962. Evgs 7.30 Thurs & Sat Mat 3.0. Thurs Mats ONLY Michael Ross substitutes Trevor Eve
WINNER of 4 AWARDS 1981
TREVOR EVE Actor — ELIZABETH QUINN Actress

APOLLO VICTORIA (Opp Vict. Stn)
THE SOUND OF MUSIC
PETULA CLARK
"A huge and manifest success." Evgs 7.30, Mats Weds & Sat 2.30. Box Office 10am-8pm. In person/phone/post/SAE. HOT LINES 01-828 8665/6/7. CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS 01-834 6919/6184. TELEDATA (Instant 24hrs confirmed). Credit Card Bookings 01-200 0200. GROUP SALES 01-379 6061.
THE SOUND OF MUSIC
LONDON'S GREATEST VALUE
Good seats from £2.50 available at doors
Booking to 15th May

APOLLO SHAFTESBURY AVE. S CC 01-437 2663. LEO McKERN in 'THE HOUSEKEEPER'. by Frank D. Gilroy with Clive Merrison and Connie Booth. Directed by Tom Conti. Prevs Feb 23 & 24 at 8.0 OPENS Feb 25 at 7.00. Group Sales. 01-379 6061.

ARTS 836 3334/2132 From Fri Theatr Clwyd Co in PLAYING THE GAME by Jeffrey Thomas. "A HIT" Wellgtn Press.

BUSH THEATRE 743 3388. THE NUMBER OF THE BEAST by Snoo Wilson. Tues-Sun 8 pm.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE 01-836 1488. Party Bookings 01-836 2379. Teledata 01-200 0200. JON PERTWEE
UNA STUBBS — GEOFFREY BAYLDON
in
WORZEL GUMMIDGE
"A piece of sparkling theatrical illusion, the spell is never broken . . . children of every age deserve a show like this." — Jack Tinker — Daily Mail. Evgs 7.30. Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 pm. Due to enormous success extended to Sat Feb 27. Some seats available for today's perf.

COMEDY THEATRE S 930 2578. Credit card Bkgs 839 1438 Grp Sales 379 6061. Mon-Fri 8.0. Sat 8.15. Mat Thurs 3. Sat 5.15. Prices £2.60-£7.00. (Not suitable for children).
STEAMING
By NELL DUNN
VOTED COMEDY OF THE YEAR, Swet Awards 1981
GEORGINA HALE — "A comic tour de force" Std. "Overwhelming warm-heartedness and dazzling performances" Gdn. "Funny and touching" D. Exp. "A SEXY LIFE-AFFIRMING SHOW" Times.

COTTESLOE (NT's small auditorium — low price tkts). Ton't Tomor 7.30 TRUE WEST by Sam Shepard.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962. Mon to Thur 7.30. Fri & Sat 6.00 & 8.45. Nominated for COMEDY OF THE YEAR 1981 SWET Awards
DARIO FO'S COMEDY
CAN'T PAY? WON'T PAY!
by the author of "Anarchist" "MAKES YOU GLAD TO BE ALIVE" D. Tel. "GOLDONI MEETS BRIAN RIX. AUDIENCE ROARED WITH REVUE STYLE APPROVAL" S. Tms. "UPROARIOUSLY WELL DIRECTED. GALES OF LAUGHTER"

DUKE OF YORK'S 836 5122: CC 836 9837: Grp. Sales 379 6061. Eves. 7.45. ½ price Mat. Thurs 3. Sat 5 & 8.15.
SIMON CALLOW & PATRICK RYECART
in
J. P. DONLEAVY'S
BALTHAZAR
"A REAL RARITY. A ROARING COMEDY. STRONGLY AN AFFIRMATION OF LIFE AND THE VARIETIES OF LOVE, FROM THE COARSE TO THE SUBLIME"

FORTUNE THEATRE 836 2238 Russell St. Covent Garden. JOHN BARDON as the legendary MAX MILLER in HERE'S A FUNNY THING by R. W. Shakespeare. "LEGEND RECREATED" "ADORABLE SEQUENCES OF MINOR FILTH AND FUN." Mon-Thur 8pm. Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45. £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.00. ticket prices in West End!

GARRICK S CC 836 4601. Mats Wed 3.00, Sats 5.00 & 8. 11th HYSTERICAL YEAR. LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY IN THE WORLD:
NO SEX PLEASE — WE'RE BRITISH
2 HRS OF NON-STOP LAUGHTER
Directed by Allan Davis. Group sales box office 379 6061. Credit Cards bookings 930 0731.

GLOBE S CC 437 1592. 439 6770/6779. 'Laughter unlimited' D Tel. 'The laughter never stops' S Mirror.
PASS THE BUTLER
The new comedy hit by Eric Idle. WILLIAM RUSHTON, FORTUNE, MADGE RYAN, PETER JONES. "Kept the audience laughing continuously" D. Tel. Thur 8.0 Fri & Sat 6.0 & 8.45. Group Sales Box Office 379 6061. ½ price (on top seats) available hour before performance.

GREENWICH S cc 01-858 7755. Evenings 7.45. Mat Sats 2.30. SEASON'S GREETINGS By Alan Ayckbourn. "One of Ayckbourn's best" Gdn. "Splendid . . . a top class evening" FT.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301. FRANCES DE LA TOUR, GWEN TAYLOR, ANNA WING in SKIRMISHES by CATHERINE HAYES. Evgs 8.0. Sat 4.30. "Remarkable and courageous and compelling" T. Out. "Brief, powerful, funny" Times. "quite brilliantly acted" Gdn.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 930 9832. Evgs 7.30. Mats Wed at 2.30. Sat 4.00.
PENELOPE KEITH
ANTHONY QUAYLE
TREVOR PEACOCK
in
HOBSON'S CHOICE
A Comedy by Harold Brighouse. Directed by Ronald Eyre.

LYRIC S cc 437 3686 Grp Sales 01-379 6061 Eves 8 Mats Wed 3 Sat 5.15
RICHARD BRIERS — PETER EGAN
Richard Pearson, Pat Heywood, Alice Krige
IN BERNARD SHAW'S

PRINCE EDWARD. Old Compton St. Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's
EVITA
THE WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL
Directed by Harold Prince. Evgs 8.0. Mat. Thurs. (Economy Prices) and Sat at 3.0. Evgs. Perfs end 10.15. S. Box Office 437 6877. C.C.

VICTORIA PALACE THEATRE
Opens March 11 — Limited Season
Previews March 5-10
ELIZABETH TAYLOR
in
THE LITTLE FOXES
by
LILLIAN HELLMAN

DOMINION Tott Court Rd (580 9562) WEST SIDE STORY (A) From Wednesday Comp Prog 7.35 Matinees Thurs & Sat 2.45. Reduced Price for Under 16's. No Advance Booking.

FRENCH INSTITUTE, 17 Queensberry Place, SW7. 589

CINEMAS

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition of
BRITISH PRINTS
1750-1935
Stubbs, Sandby, Crome, Cotman, Blake, Palmer, Haden, Bone, etc.
WILLIAM WESTON GALLERY
7 Royal Arcade Albemarle St. W1.

FINE ART SOCIETY 148 New Bond St., W.1. 01-629 5116
JAMES COWIE PAINTINGS
EDWARD BARNSLEY FURNITURE
Closing 19th February.

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Weekend Shoparound	£14.00 per cm full display (min 5 cms)
Court Circular	£5.00 per line

The King's men, all in the line of duty

Malcolm Clarke



Elite Spanish troops training 7,500ft up in the Pyrenees to give their monarch, an accomplished skier, protection in the snow. Since last year's coup, the bodyguard of King Juan Carlos has been increased from four to 20 when he skis. And they have to be good to keep up with the King.

Government inquiry urged on 'Times' titles

Continued from page 1

Glanton, the historian Hugh Trevor-Roper, has criticized it as a prima facie violation of the guarantees and a "gross incivility".

Of the other independent directors, Sir Edward Pickering said that if legal advice was that it was outside their orbit, it was "quite proper". Lord Greene of Harrow Weald, the former general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said: "All I know about it is what is in *The Times*."

Mr Gerald Long, managing director of TNL, said yesterday that he had initiated the proposal at the meeting. He added: "I have an absolutely clear conscience that it was quite legal."

Mr Long said the titles were, as they had been before the move, within the News International Group. "The ownership of titles only becomes of any real importance in the light of the existence or non-existence of TNL."

The editor of *The Times*, Mr Harold Evans, said last night: "We were told that all legal steps had been taken and it had all been properly done."

Mr Eckberg said the legal advice given to the board of TNL was that titles, though assets, were "not interests apparently". He did not know what would count as interests, but "possibly shares would".

He added: "The articles of association say we cannot sell or dispose of any interest in the newspaper. The word in question is 'interest' and we are advised that this does not refer to the titles or assets and we are therefore entitled to transfer the titles."

Mr Smith, the Shadow Trade Minister, yesterday wrote to Mr Biffen calling on the Secretary of State to intervene as "the real custodian of the agreement" reached over Mr Murdoch's takeover last year.

He said in his letter: "You recommended the transfer of the papers to Mr Murdoch to Parliament on the basis that the safeguards were adequate and the mechanism proposed would ensure they were adhered to. It now seems to me you have a duty to intervene to preserve them.

"I suggest you hold immediate talks both with the independent directors and with Mr Murdoch and make an early statement to Parliament."

He said yesterday that the independent directors "must assert themselves and call Mr Murdoch to account". Mr Smith added: "The disposal of the titles in secret last year by Mr Murdoch is a breathtaking subterfuge, which raises very serious questions about his future intentions for both newspapers."

Sir William Rees-Mogg, interviewed on BBC Radio's The World This Weekend, said the transfer should be cancelled "unless and until the independent national directors have been properly consulted and they give their consent by a majority, if they do."

He said the transfer breached three documents: Mr Murdoch's original agreement to purchase from the Thomson organisation; the company's articles of association; and the conditions laid down by the Secretary of State.

A smooth and unquestioned transfer of the titles would have made it more attractive and easier for Mr Murdoch to proceed with liquidation of the papers, Sir William added.

According to the Department of Trade, Mr Biffen could direct a company to reverse a decision if he judges it breaches the conditions attached to a newspaper merger or sale.

But it was suggested that his only sanction would be a reference to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Mr Arthur Brittenden, corporate relations director of News International, acknowledged yesterday that the company was almost certainly in breach of Department of Employment procedures for declaring redundancies.

The company told the Department last week and could see its entitlement to redundancy rebates affected as a result. Mr Brittenden said money was running out so fast that "under the pressure the company has been facing we have not been able to observe a 90-day notice".

Syrian mutiny reported as rebels hold out

Continued from page 1

traffic was using a detour through the suburbs of Hama.

The official account of the fighting is somewhat different from the version being put about by Syrian exiles in Beirut and other Arab cities. According to the Government, their security forces came under fire in the city after discovering huge stores of arms belonging to the Brotherhood. Photographs published in the government-controlled press show Soviet-made Kalishnikov rifles and rocket-propelled grenades, but also a large quantity of American-manufactured M16 rifles. The American connexion is important for the authorities who are claiming that the United States and the CIA are the main instigators of the violence.

Questioned during the Arab foreign ministers' conference in Tunis, Mr Abdul-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, insisted there had been no incidents in the country, only "Baath party and security searches for arms dumps". What was going on in Hama, he said, was no different from what happened "in France, the United Kingdom, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other countries".

The parallel with Saudi Arabia—which pays the bulk of the money to Syria's army in the Lebanon—was somewhat pointed; not long after the Iranian revolution, Saudi troops fought pitched battles to drive Muslim extremists from the Great Mosque at Mecca. The European comparisons were less credible; the British Army, for instance, has hardly resorted to tank warfare in the streets of Belfast, and the British police are not in the habit of using rifles to deal with disturbances.

Hama has long been a seat of insurrection in Syria, and four of the city's mosques, said to be under shellfire today, were bombed by the Syrian air force more than a decade ago during another, less violent uprising.

Leading article, page 11

Letter from New York

Whispering campaign to market 'Chariots'

When *Chariots of Fire* received seven Academy award nominations last Thursday, including those for best picture, best screenplay and best supporting actor (Ian Holm), it was a marvellous accolade for Britain's allegedly dying film industry.

Few who have seen the film, about two runners and their different motives in striving for Olympic gold in 1924, will doubt that the nominations are merited. Less obvious, however, is the accolade due to the marketers of the film in America: though it may be unpalatable to admit it, these Americans are almost as responsible for the nominations as are the film's production staff, director and actors.

In America, where it matters, *Chariots* has been marketed in a very unusual, not to say cunning way—and it has paid off handsomely.

It is unfortunate but true, that by and large foreign films in America are almost never big box office. In fact, prior to *Chariots* the only foreign films in the last decade which made more than $3m in rentals were *Tess* and *La Cage aux Folles*. By Friday morning *Chariots* had already exceeded this magic figure.

The marketing problems were formidable. "The first thing people want to know about a movie is 'Who is in it?'", says Ashley Boone of the Ladd Company, the joint marketers in America with Warners. "Well, *Chariots* doesn't have any household names. The second question is: 'What is it about?' Well, you can't sum up *Chariots* properly in two sentences.

"The third thing is: it is a period movie, which normally turns off men, and a sporting movie, which turns off women. On the face of it, therefore, *Chariots* had nothing going for it, except the fact that in some vague, ill-defined way, uncomfortable to the marketing mind, it is a very good film indeed."

The way Ladd and Warners got round these problems is a model of canniness worthy of Ian Charleson, who portrays the Scots runner in the film.

First, they had to avoid getting a G (for general) rating. With attitudes the way they are these days, they need a PG (for parental guidance suggested) to make the film appetizing for sophisticates. So a single expletive was put in the mouth of a fairly minor character and that did the trick.

Next, they had to avoid those cinemas considered as "art houses". The distributors had an early offer from the Plaza cinema in Manhattan, for example, but this was thought of as too intellectual a venue and they opted for Cinema 1—what Mr Boone describes as "a classy East Side house but one which had screened *The Exorcist*."

A third important tactic was to opt for a whispering campaign to get the film known rather than invest in a big advertising campaign on television. "Last year 116 movies bought TV air-time to promote themselves—TV advertising is no longer unusual. We needed something unusual."

The film opened first in three cities, New York, Los Angeles and Toronto. A week later three more. A week after that another three. Throughout last autumn *Chariots* played in just these nine houses, almost the slowest release in film history.

But to these nine theatres were lured some very influential local figures. Complimentary tickets were sent to every group imaginable who might be interested in the theme of the film: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the American Jewish Congress, YMCAs, the Christian Athletic Association.

At Christmas time *Chariots* was extended to 26 cinemas, but mainly in those nine towns. Television advertising was still shunned but by now newspaper reviews had begun to appear and so press advertisements were run, based on these, with long lists of prominent local citizens who had seen the film and endorsed it.

The final move was played a week ago. Knowing that the Oscar nominations were to be announced last Thursday, Ladd and Warners booked 283 cinemas throughout the country. With the seven nominations reported in all the newspapers and on television, they thus got their film promoted on the networks and at no direct cost.

Add to that the fact that this weekend is a holiday celebrating Washington's birthday, with more time for cinema-going, and *Chariots* looks set to win the big financial success it deserves. It will now go into 500 cinemas early in March—and that number is what is needed for a film to become a hit by American standards.

Peter Watson

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Exhibitions

Paintings and drawings by John Davidson, Morley Gallery, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1, 10 to 9.

Paintings, drawings and prints by Lynda Hopkins, Islington Central Library Gallery, 2 Fieldway Crescent, N5, 9 to 8.

Exhibition of work by Rosmarie Epaminondas, Talent Store, 11 Eccleston Street, SW1, 9.30 to 5.30.

British drawings and watercolours, Anthony d'Offay, 9 and 23 Dering Street, New Bond Street, W1, 10 to 5.30.

Work by Lady Edna Clarke Ball, New Grafton Gallery, 42 Old Bond Street, W1, 10 to 6.

Paintings of Cheshire by John Hedley, Annexe Gallery, 45 Wimbledon High Street, SW19, 10 to 5.

Women naive painters, Wylma Wayne Fine Art Gallery, 17 Old Bond Street, W1, 10.30 to 6.

Turner and the sea; and Landseer; both at Tate Gallery, 10 to 6.

Talks, lectures,

Celtic art in Britain, by David Williams, 11.30, British Museum.

I) Les Lumineres et les Routes, II) Friedrich, III) Millet, National Gallery, 1.

Abstract art in America, Carole Conrad, Tate Gallery, 1.

Kingston's local history collection by C. A. Cornish, Heritage Unit, Museum and Art Gallery, Fairfield West, Kingston-upon-Thames, 1.10.

Shakespeare and death, by *Andrew Sanders, London School* of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, WC1, 6.15.

Music

Concert by string orchestra conducted by John Georgiadis, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, EC2, 1.

Piano recital by Philip Pilington, at St Lawrence Jewry, next Guildhall, Gresham Street, 1.

Recital by Laurence Cuckney (bass-baritone) and Alan Paul (piano), St Anne and St Agnes, Gresham Street, 1.10.

Recital by Kallchstein, Laredo and Robinson trio, St John's, Smith Square, Westminster, 1.

Walks

London's ghosts, alleys and oddities, meet Embankment Underground, 7.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,756

ACROSS

1 Use fewer words. Order accepted by many journalists (8).
9 School given lighter extract from Moby Dick, perhaps (5-3).
10 Nothing more than Excalibur's last recipient (4).
11 The poet Weller — below-stairs VIP (6,6).
13 Bet includes one non-starter, Little Basket (6).
14 The best Chinese? (8).
15 Afterthought about priest's direction for cloak (7).
16 Cursed a blunder in Richard's expedition (7).
20 Put down a club? (8).
22 Without hesitation this French historian (6).
23 What they define as "manner of speaking", "heavenly sign"? (12).
25 Sriking in vain? (4).
26 Period comes to a stop (8).
27 Schubert's work looked down upon lately? (8).

DOWN

2 Opening for players (8).
3 Quiet indignation about one causes foreboding (12).
4 Recluses see merit in eccentricity (8).
5 They supply trout for cooks? About right (7).
6 Element in mounted corps — good for foreign use (6).
7 Coat for Charles? (4).
8 Girl gets free on £100 being collected (8).
12 Car feature broadcast? (12).
15 Lost place in poetry reading (8).
17 Family servant kept? (8).
18 The German was indisposed when coming off the line (8).
19 Goddess is among writer's household gods (7).
21 A jockey put on this sum of money (6).
24 Some poetry with no end of slang (4).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 15,755 will appear next Saturday

Nature notes

Magpies gather in chattering flocks in the treetops, their long tails pointing in all directions. These assemblies seem to express some early spring sexual excitement, before nest-building begins next month. Over lakes and ponds, mallards fly up and down in quacking pairs. Green woodpeckers call with a longer, shriller laugh, the equivalent of song for them. But as ground-feeders, depending very much on ants, they suffered in the winter frosts. Tree-creepers begin to sing: a few wispy notes, ending in a flourish, uttered as they make their way up a tree-trunk.

Foxes are mating: their chilling screams echo through the night. They are slowly becoming town animals, feeding out of dustbins and making their earths in neglected gardens. *Rabbits have begun to breed*, and the first litters are being born in their underground nests. The young will be up and out on the grass in a fortnight.

On the hawthorn hedges, the buds are like pale green buttons, and in some places have burst into leaf. On hedge-banks, the buttery-looking stars of the lesser celandine are appearing. On waste ground, the toothed leaves of dandelions grow longer, and young nettles sting the unwary. DJM.

Auctions

Christie's, King Street: English porcelain, 11. Christie's, South Kensington: Oriental paintings, prints, scrolls, Indian and Islamic paintings and miniatures, 10.30; old and modern silver, 2; prints, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: furniture, carpets, objects, 11; watercolours and drawings, 11; oil paintings, 2. Sotheby's, Bond Street: valuable printed books relating to science and medicine, 11.

The Times/Halifax house price index

Monthly index average of second-hand houses (seasonally adjusted)

		Index	Average price (£)	% change over the preceding 1 year	6 months	3 months
1978	December	121.1	17,858	21.2	10.7	2.4
1979	December	151.0	22,231	24.8	9.6	3.8
1980	December	166.2	24,523	10.0	1.3	0.2
1981	January	167.7	24,752	8.8	2.4	0.8
	February	172.6	25,472	10.5	5.2	4.0
	March	172.9	25,511	9.3	4.2	4.0
	April	170.5	25,164	7.5	2.5	1.7
	May	171.5	25,304	6.0	3.3	0.7
	June	169.5	25,003	3.3	2.0	2.0
	July	167.9	24,779	2.5	0.1	−1.5
	August	165.5	24,424	0.9	−4.1	−3.5
	September	163.1	24,064	−1.7	−5.7	−3.8
	October	159.7	23,582	−4.1	−6.4	−4.9
	November	159.6	23,553	−3.9	−6.9	−3.8
1982	January	163.1	24,072	−3.7	−2.1	2.4

After rising in December, the average price of second-hand housing fell again in January. Over the past three months, however, the average price, seasonally adjusted, has risen by 2.4 per cent and the index, at 163.1, has returned to the level it reached last September but is still below the peak of 172.9 reached in March, 1981. The average price of new housing (unadjusted) increased again in January but is still below the January, 1981, figure. Regionally, house prices in Greater London and the Southeast have shown the strongest signs of recovery, but overall demand and activity, partly due to the weather, has continued to decline.

Average regional prices of secondhand houses (not seasonally adjusted)

	Average price £	% change over preceding Year	3 months
North	17,847	−6.2	−3.1
York/Humberside	16,217	−6.3	−7.2
North-west	20,430	2.5	2.5
East Midlands	18,814	−3.7	−7.9
West Midlands	22,793	3.9	3.8
East Anglia	22,678	−2.9	−4.1
Wales	19,447	3.7	−0.6
South-west	25,233	−3.3	−4.2
South-east	33,064	1.0	3.6
Greater London	33,643	2.3	6.0
Northern Ireland	19,939	6.5	−0.7
Scotland	21,014	1.9	−5.9

Travel

Rail

British Rail services recommence today after yesterday's strike by Aslef drivers, with another strike set to start tonight. Eastern and Southern regions hope to operate normal commuter and long-distance trains this morning. Rundown of services because of tomorrow's strike starts tonight; passengers should aim to reach destinations by 10 pm. No overnight trains.

Air

British Airways reported that long-haul flights from terminal three at Heathrow airport, London, should operate without too many problems.

Sea

The Windermere car ferry will be out of action for six weeks

Roadworks

London and South-East: M4: part of the elevated section in Chiswick and Brentford closed between 9 pm and 6 am; M11: between junction 5 (Loughton) and 7 (Harlow) lane closures in connexion with construction of A20; junction construction near New Cut, Maidstone, causes delays during rush hours.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Private member's motion on defence. Debate on procedure.

Lords (2.30): Copyright Act (Amendment) Bill. Debate on select committee report on science and government. Debate on tidal power from Severn estuary.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000 winner: 12AN 117435 (winner lives in Cleveland). £50,000 winner: 15VS 450647 (Cambridge). £25,000 winner 1TL 077450 (Northumberland).

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The papers

The Daily Express notes today that Mr Michael English, Labour MP for Nottingham West, is sponsoring a Bill to provide for the royal rights of the first-born, regardless of sex. "On the whole our queens have been better than our kings. There is no good royal reason for insisting that the heir-apparent be male, rather indeed the reverse."

Under a headline, Transport policy off the rails, The Financial Times calls for a wider approach through a passenger transport authority, preferably elected and probably covering not only London but also the capital's suburban catchment areas to integrate British Rail, Bus and Tube services and fares structures. "This might clear the way for the eventual abolition of the Greater London Council itself."

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.77	1.69
Austria Sch	32.15	30.15
Belgium Fr	85.25	81.25
Canada $	2.31	2.22
Denmark Kr	14.93	14.18
France Fr	11.54	10.94
Germany DM	4.56	4.31
Greece Dr	120.00	111.00
Italy Lir	2375.00	2275.00
Japan Yn	462.00	436.00
Netherlands Gld	4.99	4.73
Portugal Esc	131.00	124.00
Spain Pta	192.75	183.75
Sweden Kr	11.13	10.55
Switzerland Fr	3.68	3.46
US $	1.90	1.83

London: The FT Index closed down 1.7 at 570.5 on Friday evening.

New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed down .86 to 835.31.

Anniversaries

Galileo Galilei was born in Pisa, 1564; Jeremy Bentham in London, 1748; Alfred North Whitehead, philosopher and mathematician, in Ramsgate, 1861; Ernest Shackleton in Kilkee, Ireland in 1874; Gotthold Lessing died at Brunswick, Germany, 1781.

Weather

An anticyclone will become established to the NE.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England: Some frost and fog in places at first but generally cloudy with a little rain in places; wind E light or moderate; max temp 7 or 8C (45 to 46F).

E Anglia, E Midlands: Frost and fog patches inland at first; sunny periods developing but cloudier in SE with perhaps a little rain in places; wind E light; max temp 7 or 8C (45 to 46F).

Central S England: Frost and fog patches inland at first, sunny periods developing but cloudier in E with perhaps a little rain in places; wind E light; max temp 8C (46F).

Lake District, Borders, E, NW, and NE England, Wales, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, SW Scotland, N Ireland, Isle of Man: Frost and misty inland at first, sunny periods developing; wind SE light or moderate; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

W Midlands, central N England: Frost and fog patches at first, sunny periods developing; wind SW light; max temp 7 or 8C (45 or 46F).

Channel Islands: Sunny periods; wind SE moderate or fresh; max temp 9C (48F).

SW England: Frost and misty inland at first, sunny periods developing; wind SE moderate or fresh; max temp 9C (48F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny periods but perhaps a few light showers; wind S moderate or fresh; max temp 6C (43F).

Argyll, NW Scotland: Sunny intervals, becoming cloudy with perhaps a little rain in places; wind S fresh or strong but perhaps gale in exposed places later; max temp 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Mainly dry with sunny intervals after overnight frost and fog. However NW Scotland and SE England will be cloudy with a little rain in places.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind NE, moderate; sea slight. English Channel (E): Wind E, moderate or fresh; sea moderate. St George's Channel: Wind SE, fresh, occasionally strong; sea moderate or rough. Irish Sea: Wind SE, moderate or fresh; sea moderate.

Sun rises: 7.15 am. Sun sets: 5.15 pm. Moon rises: 12.30 am. Moon sets: 10.30 am. Last quarter: 8.21 pm.

Lighting up time

London 5.45 pm to 6.43 am
Bristol 5.55 pm to 6.59 am
Edinburgh 5.46 pm to 7.7 am
Manchester 5.49 pm to 6.56 am
Penzance 6.10 pm to 7.2 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: f, fair; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Birmingham	s	7	45	Inverness	s	6	43
Blackpool	f	6	43	London	f	7	45
Bristol	s	8	46	Manchester	s	5	41

London

SATURDAY

Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); min 6 pm to 6 am 9C (48F). Humidity: 6 pm, 61 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, .15in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.5hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,009.0 millibars, rising.

YESTERDAY

Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 77 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, .04in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 1.6hrs. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,017.9 millibars, rising.

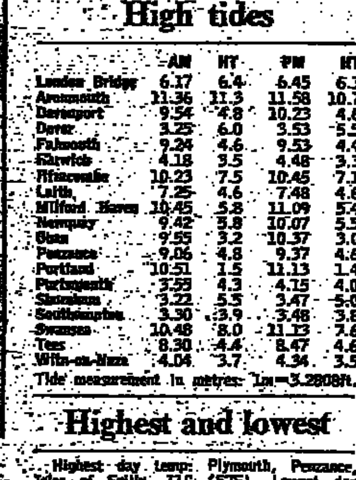
Satellite predictions

LONDON: Cosmos 1518: (Feb 16) 4.29-4.31; E*; 30E; ENE and 6.4-6.10; W*; 55NNW; ENE. Cosmos 1858: 18.26-18.36; NW; 70WSW; SSE. Cosmos 2368: 18.15-18.16; SSE; 16SE; SE* and 19.49-19.50; SW; 20SW; SW*. Cosmos 1220R: 18.31-18.35; NNW; 15N; NNE and 20.14-20.15; NNW; 20N; N*. Intercosmos 14R: 18.55-19.1; NNW; 55WNW; S. Seasat: 18.44-18.48; N; 15NNW; NW.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)



b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph



High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.17	6.4	6.45	6.3
Avonmouth	11.36	11.3	11.58	10.7
Devonport	9.54	4.8	10.23	4.6
Dover	3.25	6.0	3.53	5.5
Falmouth	9.24	4.6	9.53	4.4
Harwich	4.18	3.5	4.48	3.3
Ilfracombe	10.23	7.5	10.45	7.1
Leith	7.25	4.6	7.48	4.6
Milford Haven	10.45	5.8	11.09	5.4
Newquay	9.42	5.8	10.07	5.5
Oban	9.55	3.2	10.37	3.0
Penzance	9.06	4.8	9.37	4.6
Portland	10.51	1.5	11.13	1.4
Portsmouth	3.59	4.3	4.15	4.0
Shoreham	3.22	5.5	3.47	5.0
Southampton	3.30	3.9	3.48	3.8
Swansea	10.48	8.0	11.13	7.6
Tees	8.30	4.4	8.47	4.6
Wltn-on-Naze	4.04	3.7	4.34	3.5

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Plymouth, Penzance, Isles of Scilly, 11C (52F). Lowest day max: Beaufort Park, 5C (41F). Highest rainfall: St Mawgan, Cornwall, 0.28in. Highest sunshine: Penzance, 9.3hr.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarborough	8.2	—	9	48	Sunny
Bridlington	7.9	.03	9	48	Sunny
Cromer	8.5	—	8	46	Sunny
Lowestoft	7.8	.02	9	48	Sunny
Clacton	6.8	—	6	43	Sun pds
Margate	8.1	—	10	50	Sunny
Folkestone	7.3	—	9	48	Sunny
Hastings	8.5	—	10	50	Sunny
Eastbourne	7.9	—	10	50	Sunny
Worthing	2.7	—	10	50	Sun ints
Littlehampton	3.1	—	8	46	Sun ints
Bognor Regis	3.0	.12	8	46	Sun ints
Shanklin	—	.22	6	43	Rain
Bournemouth	6.1	.19	10	50	Sun pds
Poole	5.7	.21	9	48	Sun pds
Torquay	8.6	.06	9	48	Sunny
Falmouth	8.8	—	9	48	Sunny
Penzance	9.3	—	11	52	Sunny
Jersey	7.6	—	11	52	Sunny
Guernsey	7.5	—	11	52	Sunny
Ilfracombe	8.1	.09	10	50	Sunny
Anglesey	8.5	—	9	48	Sunny
Southport	7.2	.09	7	45	Sunny
Blackpool	6.5	.06	7	45	Sun pds
Morecambe	7.1	.12	7	45	Sunny
Douglas	8.4	—	9	48	Sunny
Swanage	7.0	.20	7	45	Sunny
Weymouth	5.4	.09	10	50	Sun pds
Exmouth	8.7	.07	9	48	Sunny
Teignmouth	8.3	.20	9	48	Sunny

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; r, rain; s, sun; f, fair; fg, fog; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F
Zurich	c	4	39	Chicago			
Ajaccio	s	12	54	Cologne	r	6	43
Akrotiri	c	12	54	Copenhagen	f	1	34
Alexandria	f	14	57	Corfu	c	12	54
Algiers	c	17	63	Dallas	c	3	37
Amsterdam	f	7	45	Dublin	s	7	45
Athens	f	10	50	Dubrovnik	f	11	52
Bahrain	s	15	59	Faro	f	15	59
Barbados				Florence	c	11	52
Barcelona	f	13	55	Frankfurt	s	3	37
Beirut	c	12	54	Funchal	f	19	66
Belgrade	s	4	39	Geneva	r	6	43
Berlin	s	4	39	Gibraltar	f	17	63
Bermuda				Helsinki	c	−2	28
Biarritz	c	11	52	Hongkong	c	13	55
Boulogne	f	9	48	Innsbruck	c	3	37
Bordeaux	f	11	52	Istanbul	f	5	41
Boston				Jeddah	s	24	75
Brussels	f	8	46	Johannesburg			
Budapest	s	1	34	Las Palmas	c	18	64
Cairo	f	17	63	Lisbon	c	13	55
Capetown				Locarno	c	6	43
Casablanca	f	18	64	Los Angeles			

		C	F			C	F
Luxembourg	c	4	39	Rio de Janeiro			
Madrid	s	10	50	Rome	c	12	54
Majorca	c	15	59	Salzburg	f	0	32
Malaga	f	17	63	San Francisco			
Malta		15	59	Santiago			
Melbourne				Seoul	s	6	43
Mexico City				Singapore			
Miami				Stockholm	c	−1	30
Milan	f	1	34	Strasbourg	r	6	43
Montreal				Sydney			
Moscow	c	−2	28	Tangier	c	16	61
Munich	f	1	34	Teheran			
Nairobi	c	30	86	Tel Aviv	c	16	61
Naples	c	10	50	Tenerife	c	20	68
New York				Tokyo	f	9	48
Nice	r	9	48	Toronto			
Oslo	sf	0	32	Tunis	f	18	64
Ottawa				Valencia	s	15	59
Paris	c	4	39	Vancouver			
Prague	c	−2	28	Venice	c	3	37
Reykjavik	f	−1	30	Vienna	c	−2	28
Rhodes	s	13	55	Warsaw	s	3	37
Riyadh	f	18	64	Washington			